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# A Guide To Trails on the Nicolet

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2007



Chequamegon-Nicolet  
National Forest

Forest



Service

United States Department of Agriculture

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715-762-2  
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Forest W  
www.fs.f

United States  
Department of  
Agriculture



**National Agricultural Library**

### Eagle River-Florence Ranger District

**Eagle River Office**  
1247 E. Wall St  
Eagle River, WI 54521  
715-479-2827  
715-479-6407 FAX  
TTY 711 (National Relay System)

### Florence Office

Florence Wild Rivers Interpretive Ctr  
State Highway 70 and U.S. 2  
Florence, WI 545121  
1-888-889-0049  
715-528-5172 FAX  
TTY 711 (National Relay System)

### Lakewood-Laona Ranger District

**Lakewood Office**  
15085 State Road 32  
Lakewood, WI 54138  
715-276-6333  
715-276-3594 FAX  
TTY 711 (National Relay System)

### Laona Office

4978 Hwy. 8 W  
Laona, WI 54541  
715-674-4481  
715-674-2545 FAX  
TTY 711 (National Relay System)

# Come visit us—your adventure awaits

Hundreds of miles of some of the best trails in Northern Wisconsin await you in the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest.

Our trails take you on delightful tours of the northwoods – to remote lakes and streams where you may catch a glimpse of a loon, or a soaring bald eagle, or catch your limit of fish for dinner; to a breath taking overlook; or simply to spend a day in the vast expanse of northern forest.

Visit us often. As the seasons change our trails change, offering new experiences for each new season. Your favorite summertime hiking trail will enchant you all over again when you see it again aloft a pair of snowshoes.

We have trails for you whether you want to hike, mountain bike, cross country ski, snowshoe or ride horses.

Come experience the “get away from it all” Northwood’s atmosphere where time passes more slowly.

## Finding Your Way: Forest Maps and Roads

Detailed maps of the Forest (1/2" per mile) are for sale from any National Forest office.

Forest Roads are marked with numbers, such as 2276. Look for small brown and white signs identifying these routes throughout the Forest. Roads marked with **vertical** number signs are lower standard and suitable for high clearance vehicles only while roads marked with **horizontal** number signs are higher standard and suitable for all vehicles.



## **About the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest...**

The Chequamegon and Nicolet National Forests were established in 1933 by Congressional proclamation. Heavily cut over by logging and in need of reforestation, the two purchase units provided jobs and promises for a brighter future during America's Depression Era. Much of the forest land was initially purchased from timber companies, landowners wanting to sell low value land, and from local counties who had little use for tax forfeited cut over lands. The new national forests were truly lands that no one wanted.

Over the last seventy years the land has healed and is now a valuable national asset.

The Chequamegon and Nicolet National Forests were officially combined into the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest in February 1998. The National Forest now has 1,522,485 acres of land in 11 northern Wisconsin counties. Because the land was purchased, the Forest has numerous neighbors who own parcels of private land scattered throughout the National Forest. The Forest operates out of nine District Offices and two Supervisor's Offices.

The Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest offers a wide range of recreational opportunities in a setting of tall trees and scenic lakes. With over 2,020 lakes and many rivers and streams, the Forest naturally draws people interested in camping, swimming, boating, canoeing, and fishing. Anglers can expect to find a large variety of fish including trout, pike, bass, muskellunge, walleye, and panfish.

For more remote experiences the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest has five congressionally designated wilderness areas totaling 44,067 acres, and sixteen non-motorized areas totaling 68,100 acres.

Wildlife watchers, as well as hunters, enjoy the Forest's abundant wildlife, including bald eagles, loons, deer, bear, grouse, waterfowl, and many species of songbirds and small mammals.

Over 1,183 miles of trails are open to the public for activities such as hiking, mountain biking, cross country skiing, horseback riding, snowmobiling.

# **Helpful Information For Planning Your Adventure On A Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest Trail**

**Weather** - Northern Wisconsin is usually comfortable throughout the summer with temperatures ranging from the 60's to the 80's (sometimes 90's) during the day and can get down to the 40's at night. Winter temperatures range from below zero to the 30's during the day, and below zero temperatures are common for winter nights.

Snowfall in Northern Wisconsin averages between 50 and 60 inches. Reliable snow for cross country skiing and snowmobiling generally occurs between mid to late December and mid March.

Spring and fall are wonderful times in Wisconsin. Days are cool and night temperatures are moderate. The fall color season lasts from mid September to nearly the middle of October.

**Bugs** - We do have our share of bugs. Early summer through July is the time when mosquitoes are most prevalent. Black flies are abundant from snow melt until mid-June, and deer flies are out in June and July if the weather is dry and warm. From early August on, bugs are rarely a problem.

Ticks are out mainly during spring and early summer, and are more common in grassy areas. It helps to wear light colored clothing, check yourself periodically, and use repellent. Deer Ticks, which can carry Lyme disease, are about the size of a pin head. Wood ticks are larger and more common.

## **There are parking fees for some trailheads**

- Some trailheads have a parking fee of \$5.00 daily or \$20.00 for the period of April 1 to March 31. Ninetyfive percent of the parking fees are kept at the local level and used to provide services or make improvements on the trail systems.

## **Safety Tips**

- Travel with a companion or notify someone of your route and when you plan to return.
- Carry adequate food and water. Water from lakes and streams is not safe to drink unless treated or boiled for at least 10 minutes.
- Carry a map and compass.
- Dress for the weather and be prepared for ticks and biting insects.
- Know symptoms and treatment for frostbite, hypothermia, and sun-stroke.

- Be careful of your footing. Trails may have uneven ground, exposed roots and rocks, etc.
- During hunting seasons wear orange for visibility.

## **Trail Etiquette**

Some trails on the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest are multi-use trails. There may be a variety of non-motorized activities occurring on the same trail. Please share the trail courteously.

- Keep pets under control at all times.
- Be aware of your surroundings and other visitors.
- Pack out all that you pack in.
- Wilderness trails are open only to non-motorized and non-mechanized use. No bicycles, snowmobiles, ATVs, portage wheels, or game carts are allowed.
- When meeting horses, give the horse riders the right of way. Get off the trail on the downhill side, take off your backpacks, and talk to the riders as they approach so that the horses know you are there.
- Groomed ski trails are open to skiers only – please no pets or snowshoeing on groomed ski trails.
- Please stay on the trail tread to prevent damage to vegetation and soils.
- Collecting plants and other natural, historic, or archeological items is not permitted. Some edible fruits and mushrooms may be collected in limited quantities for personal use.
- Please practice “Leave-No-Trace” hiking and camping. You can reduce your impact on the environment by observing these rules:
  - Keep campfires small. Better yet - use a portable camp stove. If you decide to have a fire, gather small dead and down wood a good distance from camp. Be sure your campfire is “dead out” before leaving camp. Don’t burn plastic and other garbage in your campfire.
  - Carry out all your trash.
  - Dispose of human waste at least 100 feet from campsites, trails or waterways. Dig a shallow hole and cover. Nature will do the rest.
  - Carry wash water away from streams or lakes rather than washing in the stream or lake.
  - Do not damage live trees and plants. Minimize site alterations. Good camps are found not made.

- Protect the solitude; make your camp out of sight and sound of trails and other camps.
- Anything moved for comfort or convenience (such as rocks or logs) should be replaced before leaving.

## **For Other Tourist Information**

Contact the following Chamber of Commerce or Tourist Information offices for sights to see, events, and local area attractions.

**Antigo Chamber of Commerce** 715-623-4134 or 888-526-4523  
P.O. Box 339, Antigo WI 54409 [www.antigo-city.org](http://www.antigo-city.org)

**Crandon Chamber of Commerce** 715-478-3450 or 800-334-3387  
P.O. Box 88, Crandon WI 54520 [www.crandonwi.com](http://www.crandonwi.com)

**Conover Chamber of Commerce** 800-236-4928 P.O. Box 32  
Conover WI 54519 [www.conover.org](http://www.conover.org)

**Eagle River Chamber of Commerce and Visitor's Center** 800-359-6315 or 715-479-6400 P.O. Box 1917 Eagle River WI 54421  
[www.eagle-river.com](http://www.eagle-river.com)

**Florence Wild Rivers Interpretive Center** 1-888-889-0049 [www.florencewisconsin.com](http://www.florencewisconsin.com)

**Lakewood Area Chamber of Commerce** 715-276-6500 P.O. Box 87 Lakewood WI 54138 [www.ocontocounty.org](http://www.ocontocounty.org)

**Land O Lakes Chamber of Commerce** 800-236-3432 or 715-547-3432 P.O. Box 599 Land O Lakes WI 54540 [www.landolakes.wi.us](http://www.landolakes.wi.us)

**Laona Chamber of Commerce** 715-634-3007 P.O. Box 229 Laona WI 54541-0229 [www.wistravel.com/laona.htm](http://www.wistravel.com/laona.htm)

**Rhinelander Chamber of Commerce** 800-236-4386 or 715-365-7464 P.O. Box 795 Rhinelander WI 54401 [www.rhinelanderchamber.com](http://www.rhinelanderchamber.com)

**Three Lakes Information Bureau** 800-972-6103 P.O. Box 268 Three Lakes WI 54562 [www.threelakes.com](http://www.threelakes.com)

**Wabeno Chamber of Commerce** 715-473-2311 P.O. Box 105 Wabeno WI 54566

**Wisconsin State Tourism** 800-432-8747 P.O. Box 8690 Madison  
WI 53708-8690 www.travelwisconsin.com

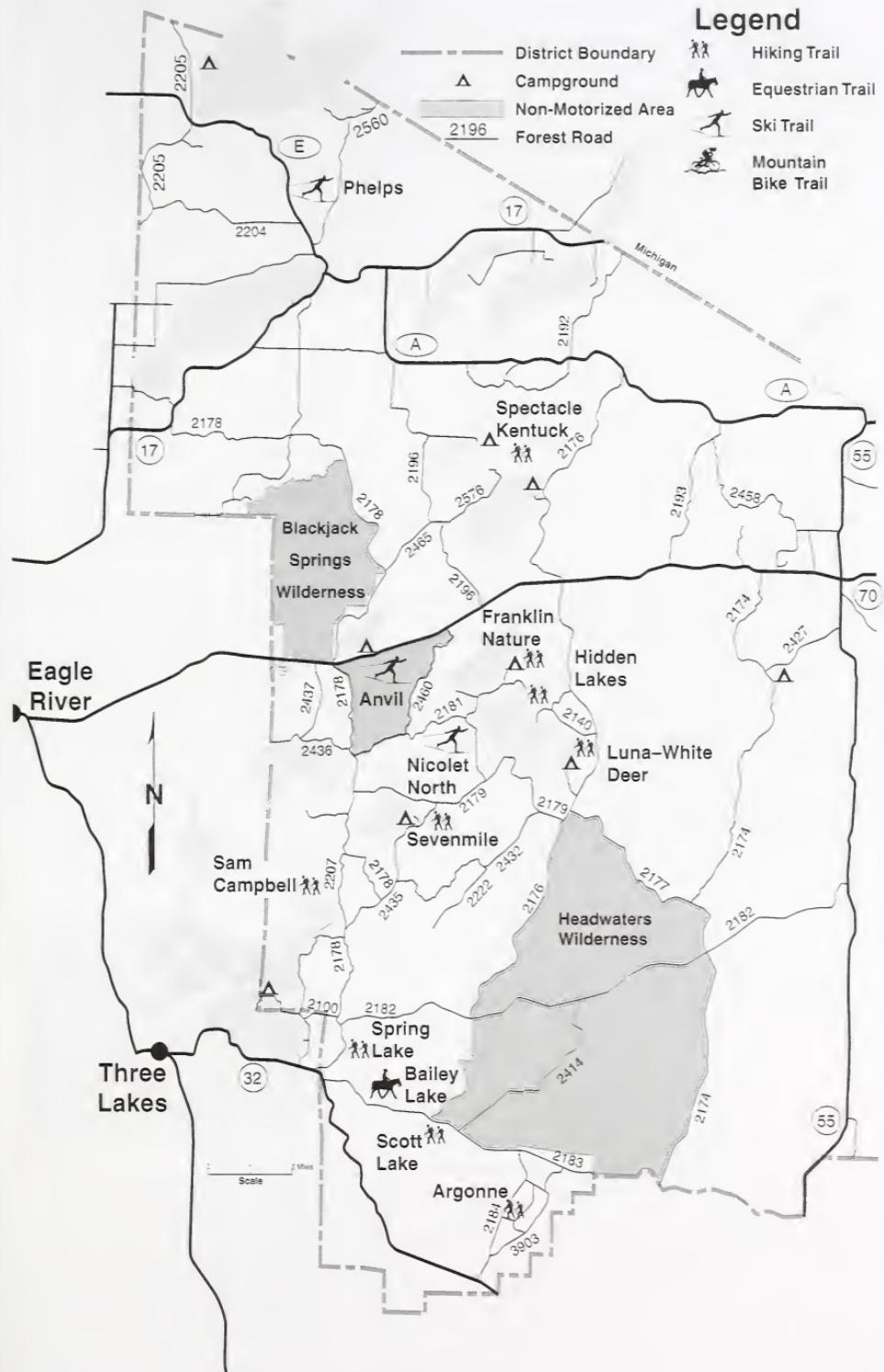
**Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources - Rhinelander** 715-  
365-8900 107 Sutliff Ave, Rhinelander WI 54501

## Eagle River Area Trail Features and Type of Use

Page	Trail Name	Length miles/ km	Hiking	Mtn Bike	XC Ski	Snow Shoe	Horse	Interpretive
8	Anvil National Recreation Trail	12 mi 19 km	x	x	x			
10	Argonne Experimental Forest Trail	0.75 mi	x					x
11	Bailey Lake Equestrian Trail	15 mi					x	
12	Eagle River Natural History Auto Tour	80 mi						x
13	Franklin Nature Trail	1 mi	x			x		x
14	Hidden Lakes Trail	15 mi	x			x		
16	Luna-White Deer Trail	4 mi	x					
17	Nicolet North Trail	26.5 mi 42.5km	x	x	x			
18	Phelps Trail	1 mi 1.7 km	x		x			
19	Sam Campbell Trail	2.5 mi	x			x		x
20	Scott Lake Trail	0.3 mi	x			x		
21	Sevenmile Trail	2 mi	x			x		
22	Spectacle-Kentuck Trail	2.5 mi	x			x		
23	Spring Lake Trail	0.25 mi	x					x

## Legend

- Hiking Trail
- Equestrian Trail
- Ski Trail
- Mountain Bike Trail



Eagle River-Florence Ranger District

## Anvil National Recreation Trail

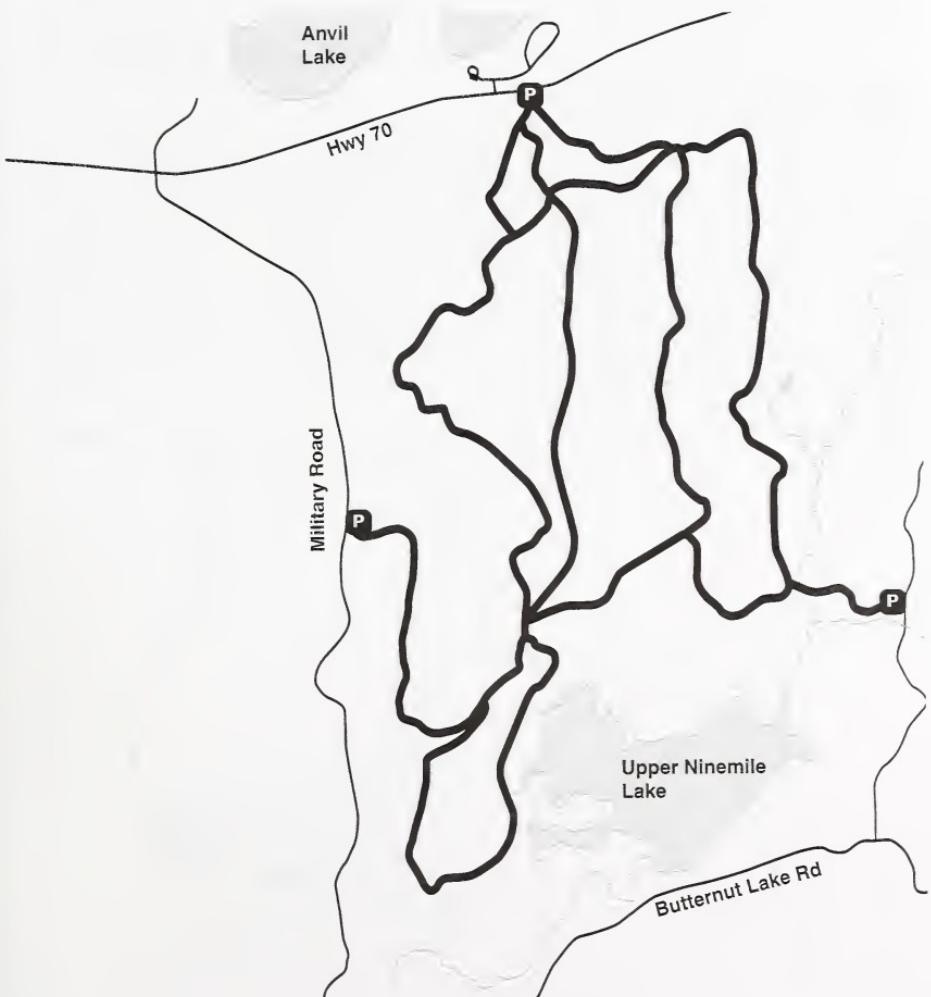
This is one of the oldest and most popular cross country ski trails in the Eagle River area. All trail loops are groomed for classic skiing and some are groomed for skating. The terrain that the trail passes through varies from fairly flat to gently rolling with some hilly sections. Trails are marked for degree of difficulty from easiest to most difficult. Originally constructed in the 1930's by the Civilian Conservation Corps, the system has since been expanded and was made part of the National Recreational Trail System in 1978. The Anvil Trail system is adjacent to Anvil Lake Campground and also connects with the Nicolet North Trail system and to Franklin Lake Campground via the Hidden Lakes Trail. Anvil is excellent for hiking and mountain biking in summer and fall. It is also a designated watchable wildlife area, especially for woodland warblers. A trail map is available at the trailhead.



**Getting There:** From the intersection of Highways 70 and 45 southeast of Eagle River drive east 9 miles on Highway 70 to the parking lot on the south side of the highway. A second parking lot is located off Military Road. Drive east 8 miles on Highway 70 to Military Road (FR 2178). Turn right (south) and drive 1.5 miles to the parking lot on the east side of the road. The parking lots will each accommodate 20 vehicles.

**Trail length:** 19 Kilometers or 12 miles





# Argonne Experimental Forest Trail

Since 1946, the Argonne Experimental Forest has been managed by the Forest Service as a living laboratory to study methods for managing northern hardwoods. This interpretive trail passes through nine study areas where you can learn about different cutting methods and their effects. The trail features 17 informational signs. A brochure with more detailed information is available at the trailhead.

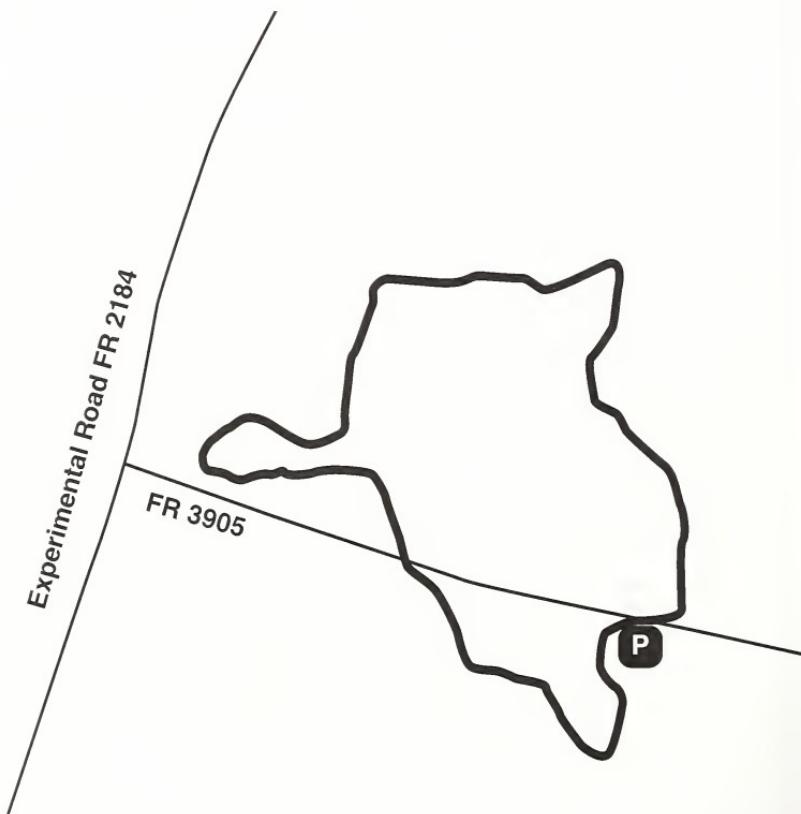


## Getting There:

From the intersection of highways 45 and 32 southeast of Three Lakes drive 11.4 miles east on Highway 32 to Experimental Road (FR 2184). Turn left (north) and drive 1.7 miles to FR 3905. Turn right (east) and go 0.1 mile to trailhead on the right. Parking is available for 3 vehicles.

**Trail Length:** 3/4 mile loop.

Difficulty: Level, flat terrain with some rocky areas.



## Bailey Lake Equestrian Trail

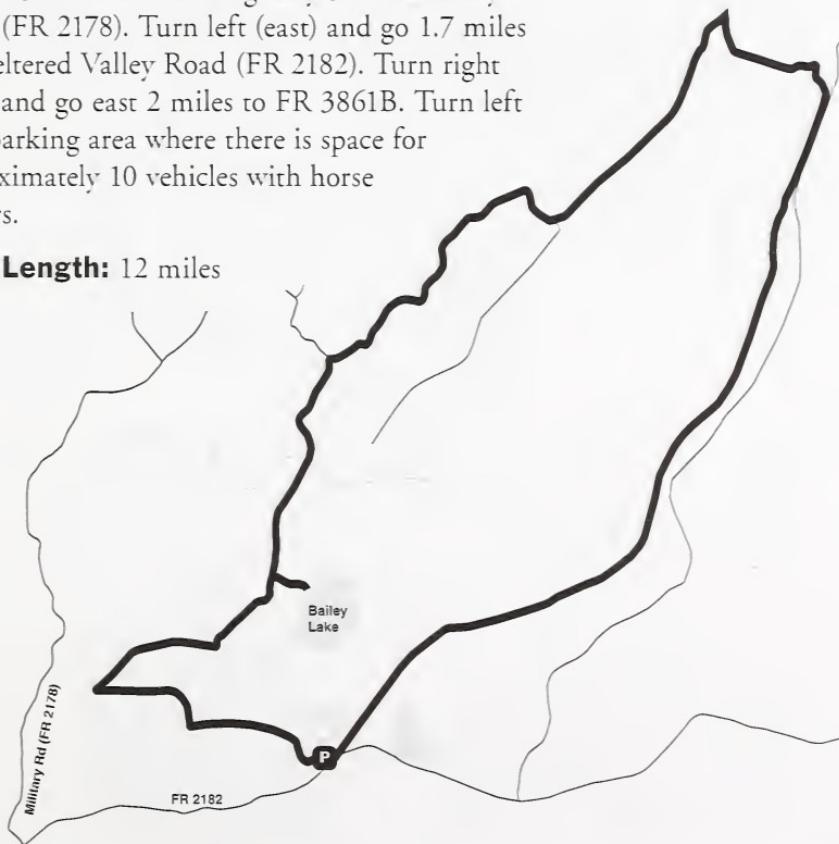
Enjoy this trail from high in the saddle. Take your horse on a slow trot through a tall, red pine forest over what was once a logging road and railroad grade at the turn of the century. Early loggers used a combination of horse drawn sleds and trains to haul timber from the woods. Parts of this trail are used as a snowmobile route from December through March. The trail is located on level, flat terrain, and follows snowmobile trail and forest roads for most of the trail length. Highlines and hitching racks are available at the trailhead. Camping is allowed at the trailhead where a large group fire ring and a few picnic tables are located. Use of certified weed-free hay is required on all National Forest lands.



### Getting There:

From the intersection of highways 45 and 32 southeast of Three Lakes drive 4.3 miles east on Highway 32 to Military Road (FR 2178). Turn left (east) and go 1.7 miles to Sheltered Valley Road (FR 2182). Turn right (east) and go east 2 miles to FR 3861B. Turn left into parking area where there is space for approximately 10 vehicles with horse trailers.

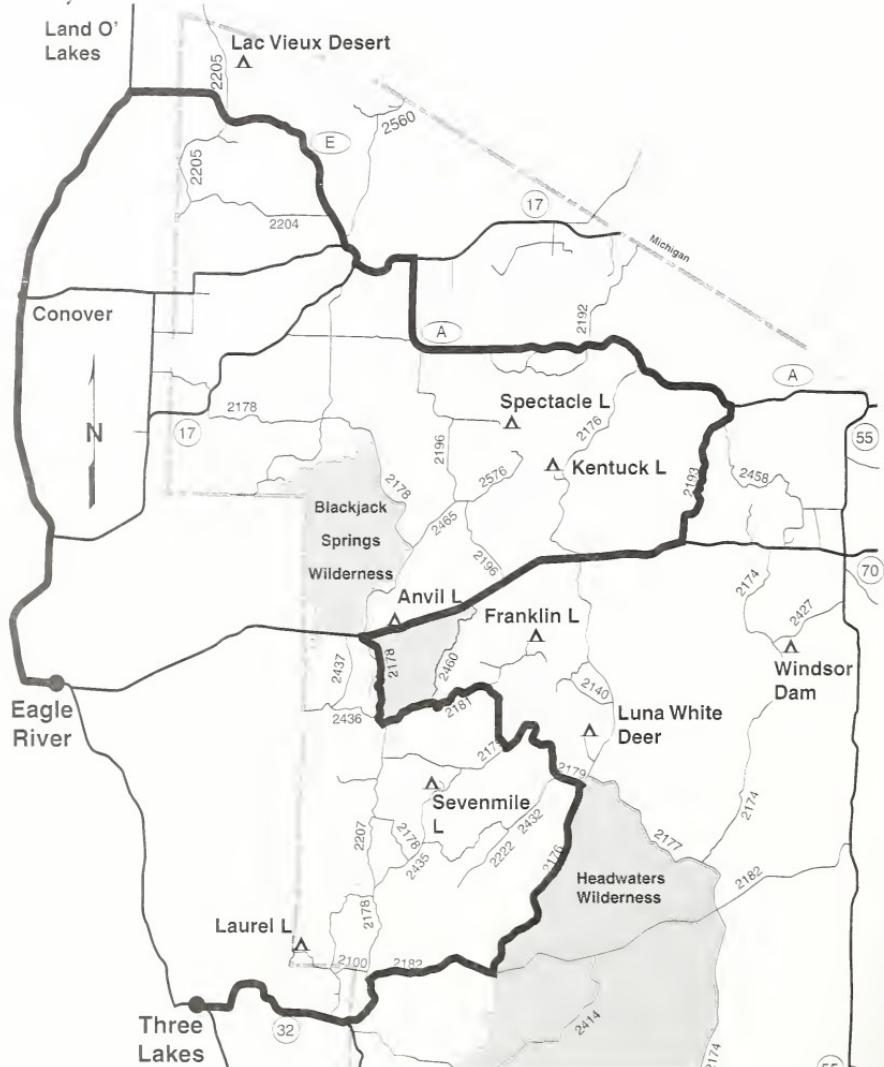
**Trail Length:** 12 miles



# Eagle River Self-guided Natural History Auto Tour

This auto tour was created to highlight the variety of scenic and historic points of interest in the Eagle River Ranger District area. You'll experience a varied, forested landscape and a number of historic spots with informational signs along the way. Don't forget the featured last stop at the Historical Society Museum in Three Lakes. Pick up an auto tour brochure at the Eagle River Ranger Station; it gives directions and describes each of the stops on the route. The tour is about 80 miles long and takes one 4-5 hours to drive and enjoy.

**Getting There:** The tour begins in Eagle River and ends in Three Lakes as shown on the map, however, you may access the route anywhere along the way.



## Franklin Nature Trail

The popular Franklin Nature Trail is an excellent way to get a sampling of nature in the Northwoods. The self-guiding brochure provided at the trailhead will guide you through northern hardwood, pine, and hemlock forests where some trees are over 400 years old. You can stop off to wade in Butternut Lake or contemplate a beautiful lake vista from a bench under huge hemlock trees. The boardwalk across the bog offers a chance to see many varieties of bog plants up close. If you visit in the spring, bring along your field guide to identify the numerous wildflowers in bloom. A short loop at the beginning of this trail is accessible to persons using wheelchairs.



**Getting There:** From the intersection of Highways 70 and 45 southeast of Eagle River, drive east 7.6 miles on Highway 70 to Military Road (FR 2178). Turn right (south) and drive 2.8 miles to Butternut Lake Road (FR 2181). Turn left (east) and drive 4.6 miles to the campground. Parking for the trail is on the right after you enter the campground. Ten vehicle spaces and 2 bus spaces are available.

**Trail Length:** 1 mile loop.

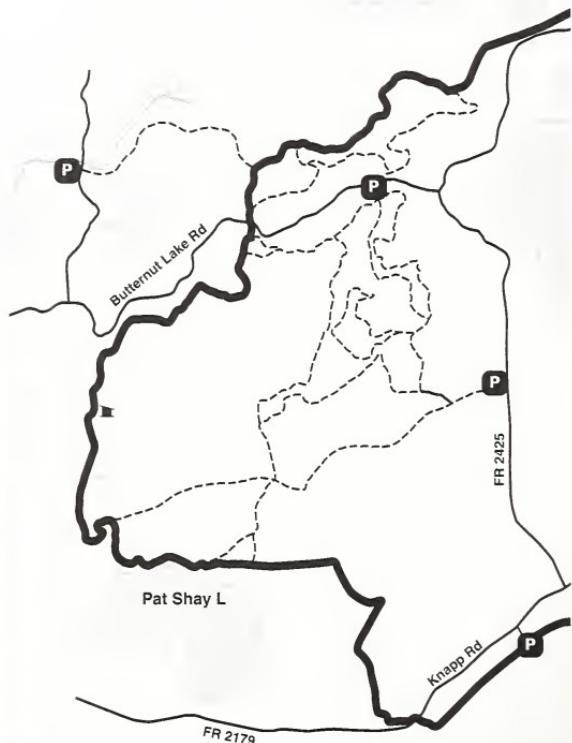
Difficulty: Easy, gently rolling terrain with one short steep hill.



## Hidden Lakes Trail

Looking for adventure? Put on your hiking boots and try the Hidden Lakes Trail. It is a long distance trail providing the chance for an overnight campout by a small remote lake. Begin your hike on the Franklin Nature Trail. The Hidden Lakes Trail begins at a T intersection about a half mile from the parking lot and loops to the south around Butternut Lake, passing Luna-White Deer Campground and then back west and north to Franklin Lake Campground. Sites along the way include several small lakes with scenic vistas and a remarkable stand of old hemlock trees. Camp along the way near one of the small lakes or at either of the developed campgrounds. The north branch of the Pine River, north of Luna Lake, is a State Wild River.

Pick up a trail map at the Eagle River Ranger Station or at the trailhead before starting this trail. Several sections of the trail follow other trails and old roads so it's a good idea to have a map and compass in hand. Look for white diamond-shaped reassurance markers on trees which designate the Hidden Lakes Trail.



**Getting There:** From the intersection of Highways 70 and 45 southeast of Eagle River, drive east 7.6 miles on Highway 70 to Military Road (FR 2178). Turn right (south) and drive 2.8 miles to Butternut Lake Road (FR 2181). Turn left (east) and drive 4.6 miles to the campground. Parking for the trail is on the right after you enter the campground.

You may also access the Hidden Lakes Trail from FR 2008, off FR 2179, on the south side of Butternut Lake. If you take the entire 15 mile loop the trail ends at Franklin Lake boat ramp. To return to the parking lot, walk east down the main campground road to the Nature Trail parking lot.

**Trail Length:** Approximately 15 miles.

**Difficulty:** Moderate, mostly level, but some rolling terrain.



## Luna-White Deer Trail

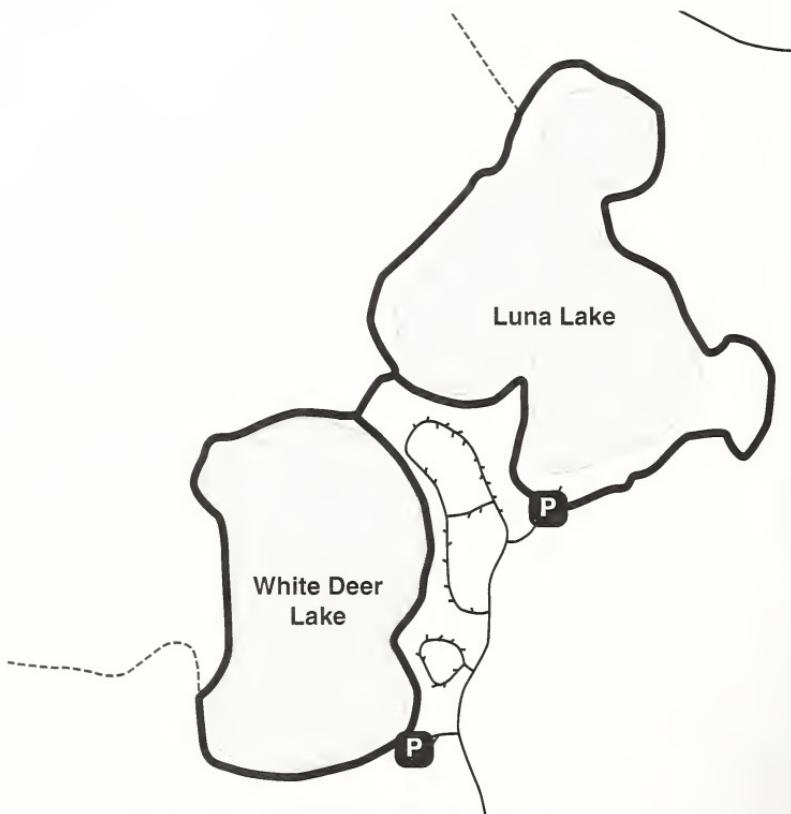
Hike along the shorelines of both Luna and White Deer Lakes on this tranquil trail adjacent to Luna-White Deer Campground. Bring your binoculars and camera because you'll likely catch sight of loons on one of these lakes. Both of the crystal clear, undeveloped lakes present a setting hikers can enjoy at dawn on a foggy morning or on a crisp, clear, and sunny fall afternoon.



**Getting There:** From the intersection of Highways 70 and 45 southeast of Eagle River drive east 13.4 miles on Highway 70 to FR 2176. Turn right (south) and drive 5.6 miles to FR 2188 Turn right (north) and continue 0.7 mile to the campground. Hikers can park either at the White Deer Lake swimming area with parking available for 7 vehicles or the boat access on Luna Lake, with space available for 10 vehicles.

**Trail Length:** 4 mile loop.

**Difficulty:** Level terrain, some small hills.



## Nicolet North Trail

This is a favorite trail for cross country skiers, hikers, and mountain bike enthusiasts. Forty two kilometers are groomed and tracked for both classic and skate skiing. The Nicolet North Trail is connected to the Anvil National Recreation Trail. In addition, part of the Hidden Lakes Trail follows some of this trail. This trail is maintained by volunteers.



**Getting There:** From the intersection of Highways 70 and 45 southeast of Eagle River, drive east 7.6 miles on Highway 70 to FR 2178 (Military Road). Turn right (south) on FR 2178 and drive 2.8 miles to FR 2181 (Butternut Lake Rd). Turn left (east) and drive 2.7 miles to the parking lot. There is a parking lot on Fornier Road (FR 2460) and on Babcock Road (FR 2425) (accesses easier trails).

**Trail Length:** twelve loops totaling 42.5 kilometers or 26.5 miles

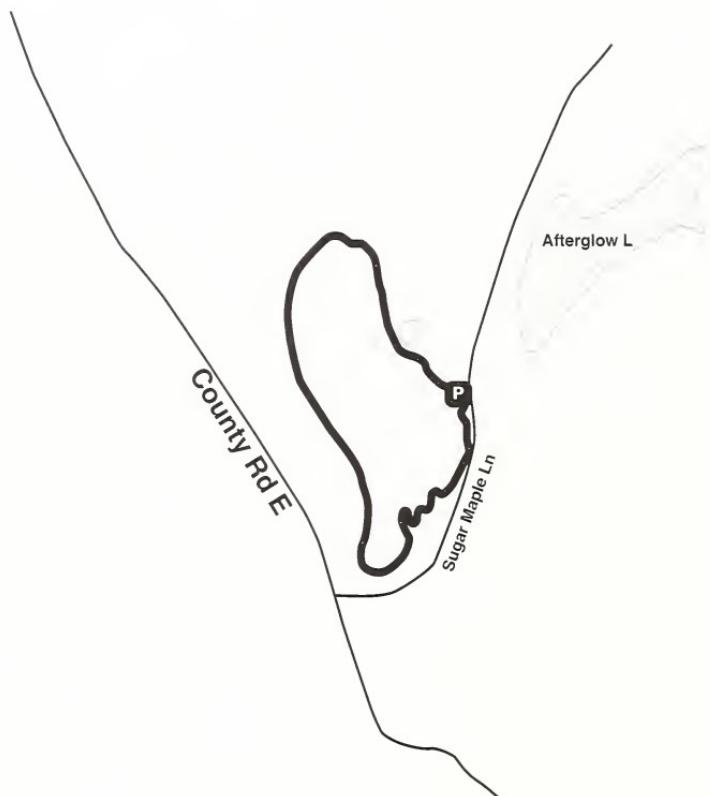


## Phelps

Hike or cross country ski this trail through a forest of maple, birch, and basswood. It is an easy grade with only one downhill section that requires some caution when skiing. Established for classic skiing only it is maintained by volunteers. Nature lovers will be drawn to the solitude of this trail ideally located “off the beaten path”.



**Getting There:** From Phelps drive north 0.5 mile on County Highway E to Sugar Maple Road. Turn right and continue 0.5 mile to the trailhead. Parking for 4-5 vehicles is on the left.



## Sam Campbell Memorial Trail

This trail is named in honor of nature enthusiast, philosopher, and writer, Sam Campbell. It leads through a forest of pines, balsam, and hardwoods, and offers a variety of spring birds and wildflowers. A self-guiding brochure available at the trailhead interprets the area using the writings of Sam Campbell. A section of the trail leads to Wegimind Point and Vanishing Lake, a focal point in many of Campbell's writings and lectures. The Three Lakes Historical Society has been a partner with the Forest Service in maintaining this trail. Benches are provided.



**Getting There:** From Three Lakes, take State Highway 32 east for 4 miles to Military Road (FR 2178). Turn left and go north 4-1/2 miles to Old Military Road (FR 2207). Take left fork onto Old Military Road and proceed north 1 mile to the trailhead. Parking is available for 3 vehicles.

**Trail Length:** 2.5 mile loop.

**Difficulty:** Gently rolling terrain, some short steep grades.



## Scott Lake Trail

Scott Lake Trail leads south (from FR 2183) through a towering stand of white pines and hemlocks about 300 years old. A short trail to Shelp Lake winds north through large, old hemlocks to a bog surrounding the lake, providing close-up views of bog plants. This is an excellent area to glimpse some of northern Wisconsin's distinctive birds—gray jays, black-backed woodpeckers, boreal chickadees, and ospreys. Shelp Lake is a Research Natural Area and part of the Headwaters Wilderness. Along with Scott Lake, this is part of a cooperatively designated State Scientific Natural Area.



**Getting There:** From the intersection of highways 45 and 32 southeast of Three Lakes drive 4.7 miles east on Highway 32 to Lake Julia Road. Turn left (east) and drive 0.6 mile to Scott Lake Rd (FR 2183). Bear right and continue 3.4 miles to the trailhead. Park along north side of the road.

**Trail Lengths:** Scott Lake - 0.3 mile loop; Shelp Lake - 0.1 mile.

**Difficulty:** Scott Lake - easy, uneven. Shelp Lake - level.



## Sevenmile Lake Trail

This enjoyable loop trail begins in the Sevenmile Lake Campground and winds around a bog and along a ridge providing a vista of two lakes. Sections of boardwalk will keep your feet dry when traveling through the wet areas. Many unique plants grow in the bog mat. You may see sundew, pitcher plant, and several species of orchids. The small lakes contain minnows and bullheads.

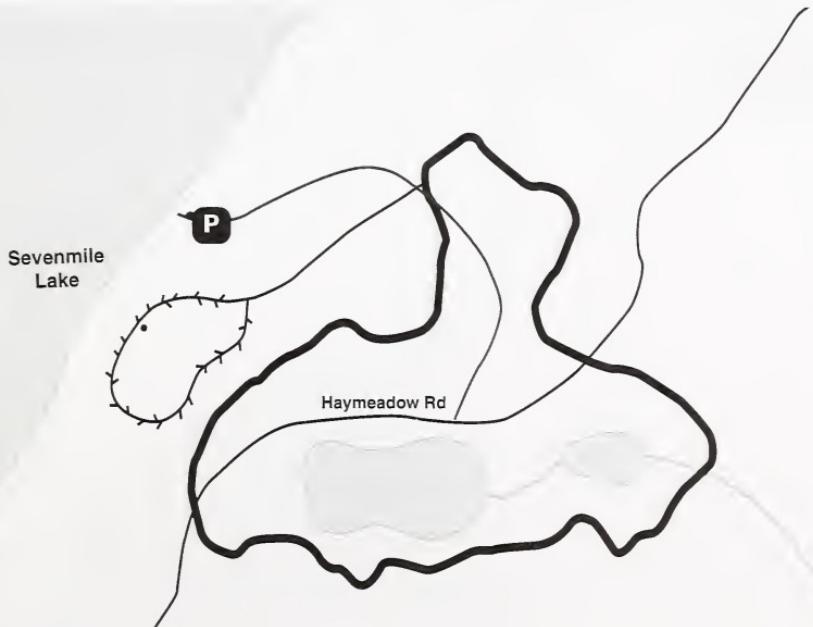


### **Getting There:** From the intersection of

Highways 70 and 45 southeast of Eagle River drive east 7.6 miles to FR 2178 (Military Road). Turn right (south) and drive 3.4 miles to Knapp Road (FR 2179). Turn left (east) on Knapp Rd and continue 2.1 miles to Hay Meadow Road (FR 2435). Turn right (south) on Hay Meadow Road and drive 0.8 mile to the campground. The trailhead is located next to campsite #20 in the campground, with parking for 1 vehicle. Additional parking is available at the boat ramp.

**Trail Length:** 2 mile loop.

**Difficulty:** Gentle to hilly terrain.



## **Spectacle Lake – Kentuck Lake Trail**

If you are camping at either Kentuck or Spectacle Lake Campgrounds, this trail is a good option. Get up early and go birding or try your hand at identifying wildflowers along the trail. It's a one way trail so you'll return over the same route. You can imagine you've stepped back in time as you walk parts of this trail which follow the old Thunder Lake Railroad bed used in the early 1900's to haul hardwood logs to the sawmill.

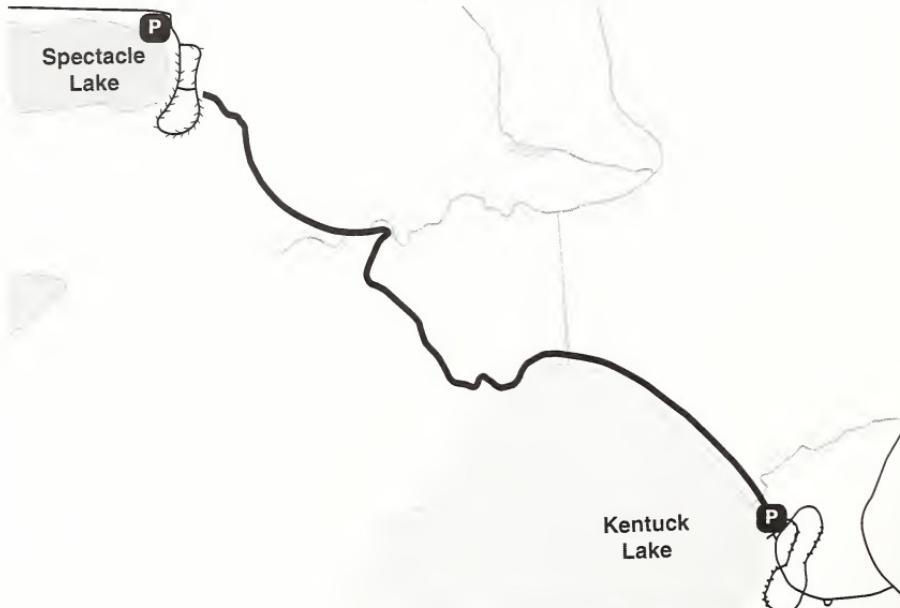


**Getting There – Kentuck Lake Campground:** From the intersection of Highways 70 and 45 southeast of Eagle River drive east 13.4 miles on Highway 70 to FR 2176. Turn left (north) on FR 2176 and drive 2.7 miles to the campground. The trailhead is located across from the boat ramp at Kentuck Lake.

**Getting There – Spectacle Lake Campground:** From the intersection of Highways 70 and 45 southeast of Eagle River drive east 7.6 miles on Highway 70 to FR 2178 (Military Road) and turn left (north). Follow the signs to the campground. The trailhead is near campsite #30. Parking is available at the boat ramp parking lot.

**Trail Length:** 2-1/2 miles one way.

**Difficulty:** Level terrain.



## Spring Lake Fire Interpretive Trail

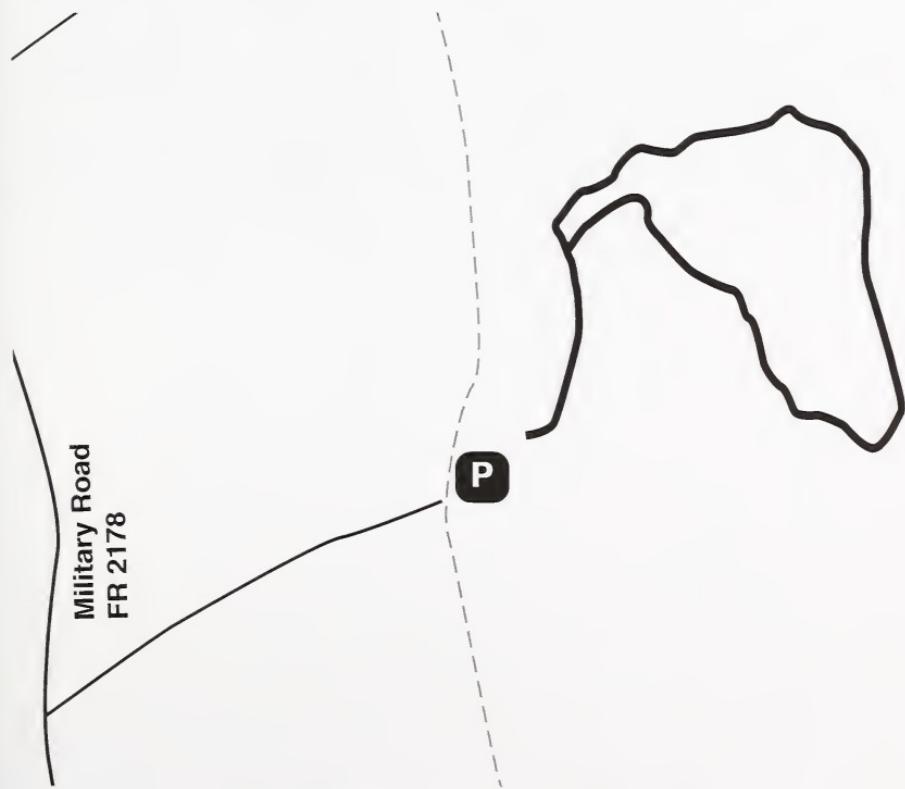
This short trail is unique, as it passes through an area which was burned in 1986 by the 1200-acre Spring Lake Fire. Informational signs interpret the effects of fire on the landscape. Look for the visible signs of charred trees and other indications of fire. Wildlife, like red-tailed hawks, that live in large, relatively open areas, also find a home here.



**Getting There:** From the intersection of highways 45 and 32 southeast of Three Lakes drive 4.3 miles east on Highway 32 to Military Road (FR 2178). Turn left (east) and drive east and north 3.2 miles north to Spring Lake Fire sign. Turn right (east) to parking area, which has space for 5-6 vehicles.

**Trail Length:** 1/4 mile loop.

**Difficulty:** Gently rolling terrain.

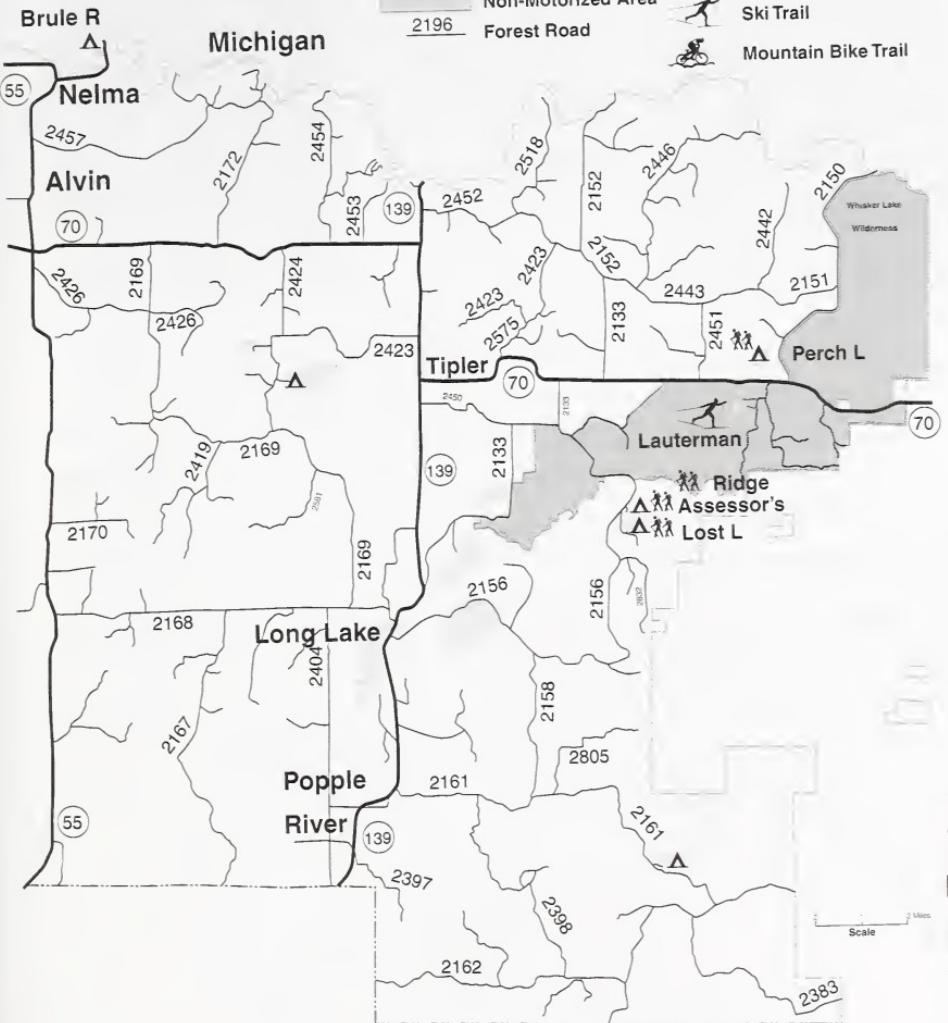
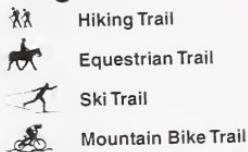


## Florence Area Trail Features and Type of Use

Page	Trail	Length miles/ km	Hiking	Mtn Bike	XC Ski	Snow Shoe	Horse	Interpretive
26	Assessor's	1 mi	x			x		x
27	Lost Lake	1 mi	x			x		
28	Lauterman	9 mi 14.5 km	x	x	x			
30	Perch Lake	1.5 mi 2 km	x			x		
31	Ridge	4 mi	x			x		

## Legend

— District Boundary  
Δ Campground  
■ Non-Motorized Area  
2196 Forest Road



## Assessor's Interpretive Trail

This trail is on the east end of Lost Lake adjacent to the Lost Lake Campground. It winds through majestic hemlocks and hardwoods for a deep-woods experience. Interpretive signing along the trail explains the natural and cultural history of this area. One of the highlights is the "Assessor White Pine". Visit the trail, and you'll find out how it got its name. This trail also connects to Ridge Trail.



### Getting There:

From Florence, take Highway 70 west for 17 miles to the intersection with FR 2450 (Dream Lake Road). Turn left (south) on FR 2450 and drive 1 mile to FR 2156 (Chipmunk Rapids Road). Continue straight 2.9 miles on FR 2156 to Lost Lake Campground. Turn left (southeast) and then left again (east) continuing about a mile to the Assessor's Trailhead. Parking is available for approximately 6 vehicles.

**Trail Length:** 1 mile loop.

**Difficulty:** Gently rolling terrain, with resting benches midway. One loop of the trail is wheelchair accessible.



## **Lost Lake Trail**

The Lost Lake Trail follows the south shore of Lost Lake through large hemlocks. You can access the trail from the Assessor's Trailhead, the Lost Lake Cabins, or from the boat landing on the northwest shore of Lost Lake.



**Getting There:** From Florence, take Highway 70 west for 17 miles to the intersection with FR 2450 (Dream Lake Road). Turn left (south) on FR 2450 and drive 1 mile to FR 2156 (Chipmunk Rapids Road). Continue straight 2.9 miles on FR 2156 to Lost Lake Campground. Turn left (southeast) and then left again (east) continuing about a mile to the Assessor's Trailhead. Parking is available for approximately 6 vehicles.

**Trail Length:** 1.3 mile loop.

**Difficulty:** Gently rolling terrain.



## Lauterman National Recreation Trail

This trail traverses some hilly terrain and offers good hiking and mountain biking opportunities, as well as being groomed and tracked for classic cross country skiing. It includes three loops with one loop for beginning skiers. Five walk-in campsites are located around Lauterman Lake complete with tables, tent pads, fire rings, and wilderness-style toilets. If the fish are biting, you may find yourself hooking northern pike, bass, perch, and panfish. An added feature is an Adirondack-style shelter that provides a rest or picnic stop for hikers and skiers alike. This trail connects with The Perch Lake Trail to the north and the Pine River and Chipmunk Rapids Campground to the south. A trail map is available at the trailhead.



**Getting There:** From the intersection of Highway 2 and 70 in Florence, drive west 12.8 miles on Highway 70 to FR 2154. Turn left (south) and drive south 0.3 mile to the trailhead on the right. Parking for 12 vehicles is on the left.

From the intersection of Highway 2 and 70 in Florence drive west 15.5 miles to FR 2450. Turn left (south) and drive 1 mile to FR 2156. Turn left (southeast) and drive 2 miles to trailhead on the left (east). Parking is available for 4 vehicles.

**Trail Length:** 9 miles or 14.5 kilometers including three loops.

**Difficulty:** Gentle to steep terrain.



## Perch Lake Trail

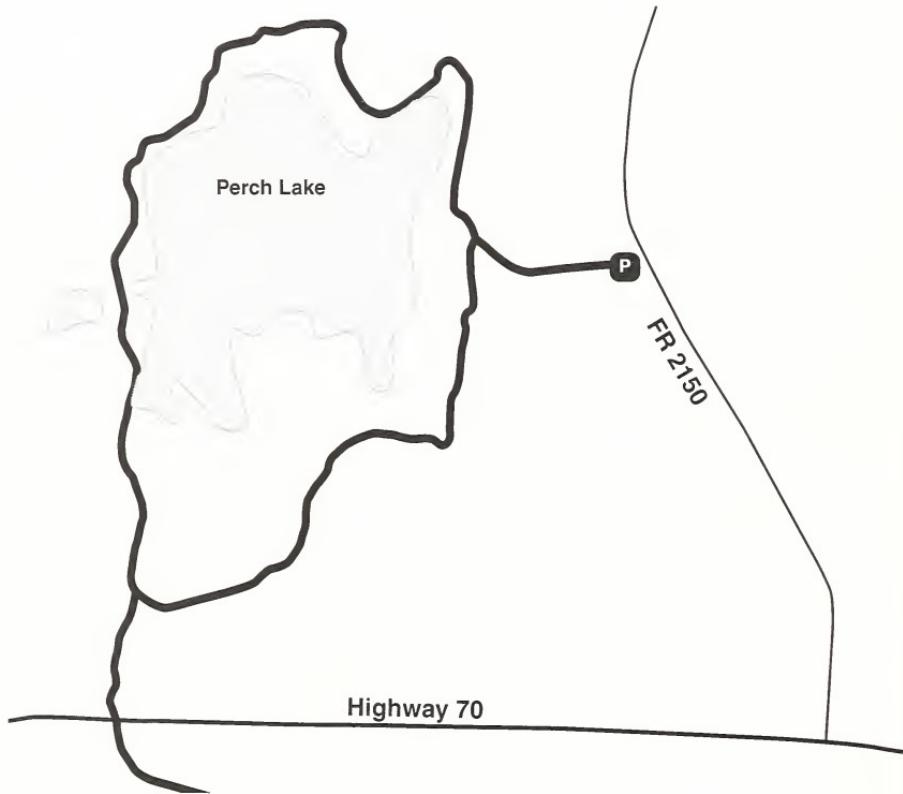
Located just west of Whisker Lake Wilderness, this trail circles picturesque Perch Lake. If you're interested in a secluded camping experience, this trail also passes five walk-in campsites with tent pads, tables, fire rings, and wilderness-style toilets. Or if you'd like to try fishing, the lake is stocked with bluegills and bass.



**Getting There:** From the intersection of Highway 2 and 70 in Florence, drive west 12.3 miles on Highway 70 to FR 2150. Turn right (north) on FR 2150 and drive approximately 0.5 miles to parking area on the left (west) with space for 6 vehicles.

**Trail Length:** 1.3 miles.

**Difficulty:** Gently rolling terrain.



## Ridge Trail

This is part of a network of trails that includes the Assessor's Trail and the Lauterman Trail. Ridge Trail can be accessed from the Chipmunk Rapids or Lost Lake Campgrounds/Cabins. It is best accessed from the Assessor's Trail parking lot. The Ridge Trail winds along the top of an aspen-birch ridge and along the scenic Pine River. Other portions of the trail pass through young aspen, spruce-fir, northern hardwood, and hemlock forest.

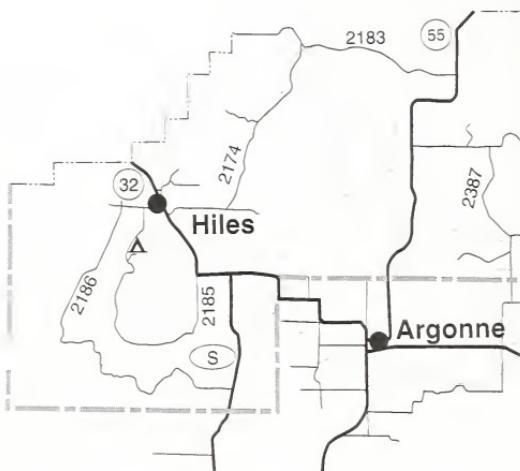


**Getting There:** From Florence, take Highway 70 west for 17 miles to the intersection with FR 2450 (Dream Lake Road). Turn left (south) on FR 2450 and drive 1 mile to FR 2156 (Chipmunk Rapids Road). Continue straight 2.9 miles on FR 2156 to Lost Lake Campground. Turn left (southeast) and then left again (east) continuing about a mile to the Assessor's Trailhead.

**Trail Length:** Approximately 3.3 miles.

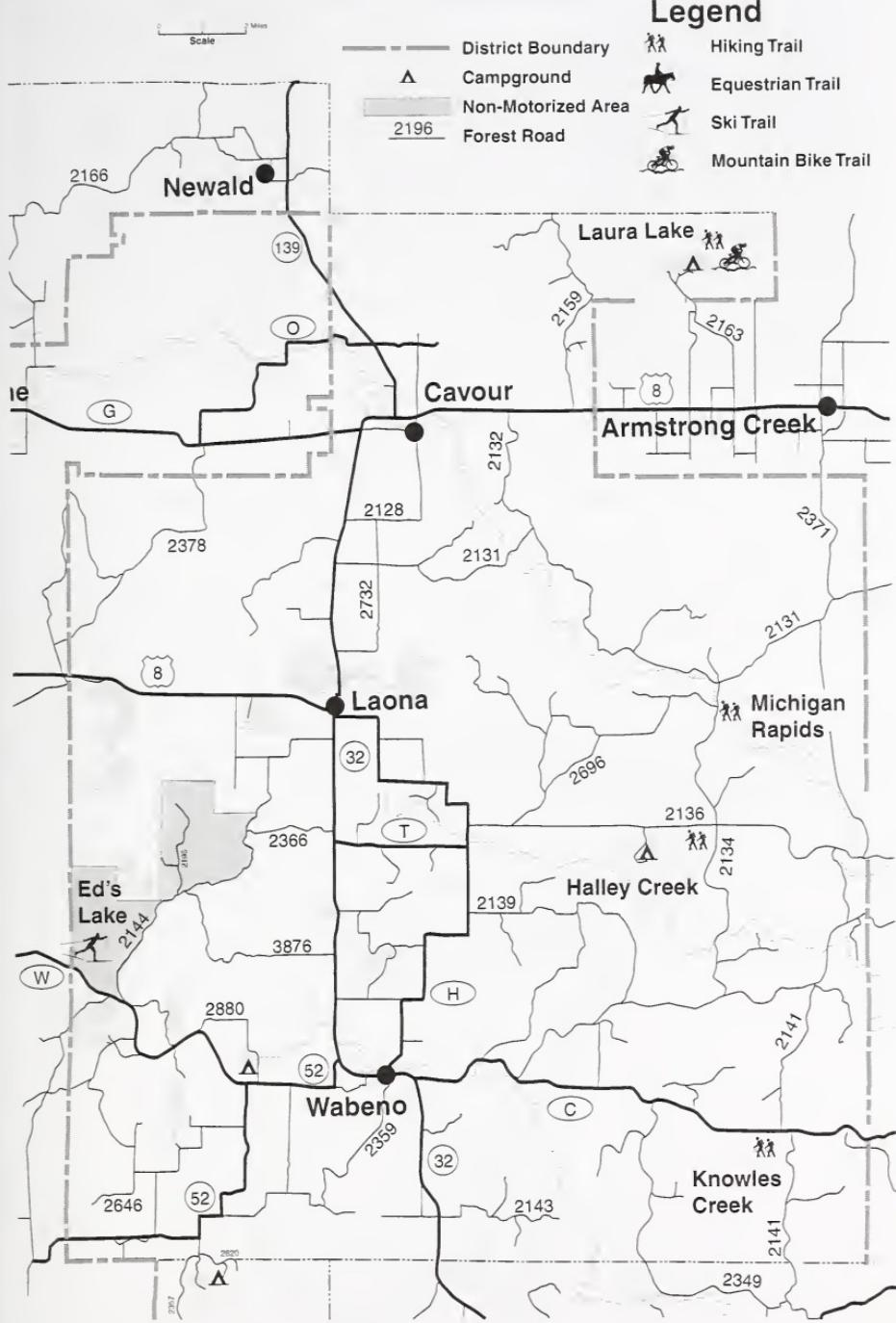
**Difficulty:** Some gently rolling and steep terrain.





## Laona Area Trail Features and Type of Use

Page	Trail	Length miles/ km	Hiking	Mtn Bike	XC Ski	Snow Shoe	Horse	Interpre- tive
36	Ed's Lake National Recreation Trail	6 mi 9.7 km	x	x	x			
37	Halley Creek Bird Trail	1 mi	x					x
38	Knowles Creek Interpretive Trail	0.3 mi	x					x
39	Laura Lake Trail	2.25 mi	x					
40	Laura Lake Bike Trail	6 mi		x				
41	Michigan Rapids Hiking Trail	2 mi	x					



## Lakewood-Laona Ranger District

## **Ed's Lake National Recreation Trail**

A favorite trail for cross-country skiers, this trail also provides excellent opportunities for hikers and mountain bike enthusiasts. The trail follows several early 1900's railroad grades through a variety of forest types. Tracked and groomed for traditional skiing, the three loops provide excellent skiing for beginner and intermediate skiers. An Adirondack-style shelter overlooking Ed's Lake is located along the Birch loop. A map and brochure are available at the trailhead.

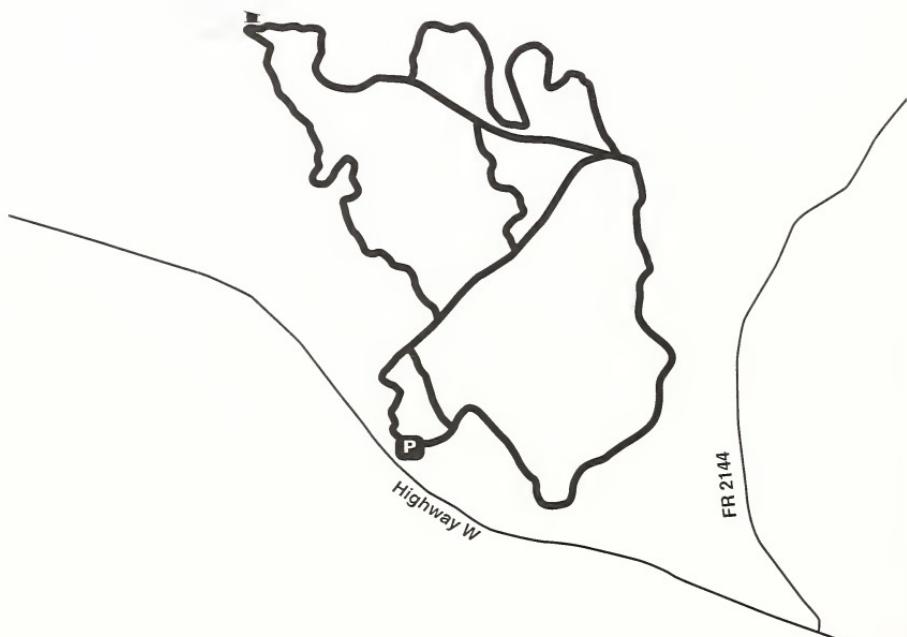


**Getting There:** The trailhead is located on County Highway W midway between Crandon and Wabeno. Look for a large sign along the northeast side of the highway. Parking is available for 12 or more vehicles.

**Trail Length:** 6 miles, all loops.

**Difficulty:** Varies from easy to difficult.

### **Ed's Lake**



## **Halley Creek Bird Trail**

The Halley Creek Bird Trail was created in 1989 by the Nicolet National Forest in cooperation with the Northeastern Wisconsin Audubon Society. As you hike this trail, you experience four distinct types of habitats, each with its associated bird species characteristic of this region. Spring and early summer are best times to view the bird variety. A brochure with a map is available at the trailhead.



### **Getting There:** Follow County Highway H

east and south of Laona for 5-1/2 miles to FR 2136. Turn left and go east 5 miles. Look for Halley Creek Trail sign on the left and gravel access road on the right. Parking for 3-4 vehicles is at the trailhead, which is at the end of the road.

### **Trail Length:** 1 mile.

**Difficulty:** Easy, flat with some exposed roots and rocks. Be prepared for ticks in spring and early summer.



## Knowles Creek Interpretive Trail

Featuring a 170-acre wetland impoundment and a viewing platform, this trail has become a popular stop for wildlife watchers. Habitats include open water, marsh, a grassy opening, and upland forest. A wide variety of species can be observed, from hawks and bald eagles, to waterfowl and wetland birds. Interpretive signs and resting benches are located along the trail.

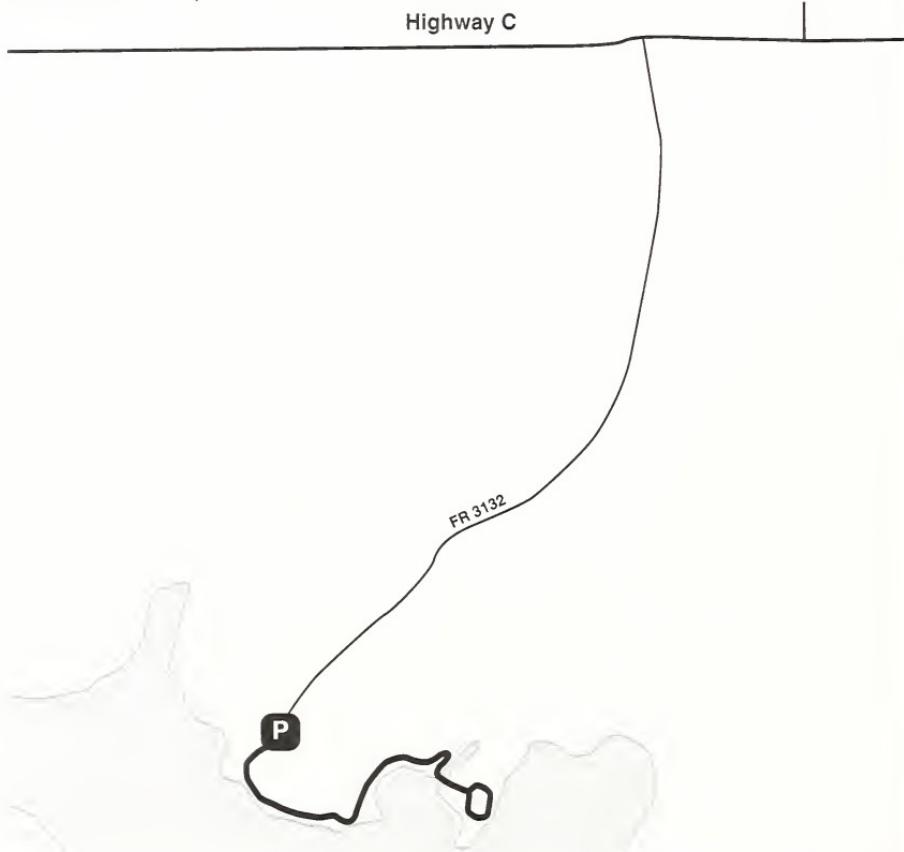


**Getting There:** From State Highway 32 in Wabeno, drive east 9 miles on County Highway C. Watch for Knowles Creek Impoundment sign. Turn right at the sign and follow gravel road south to parking area and trailhead. Parking is available for 4 vehicles.

**Trail Length:** 2/3 mile.

**Difficulty:** Easy and wheelchair accessible.

Highway C



## Laura Lake Hiking Trail

Located adjacent to the Laura Lake Campground, this trail circles Laura Lake and passes through a forest of northern hardwoods, hemlocks, and balsams. Bring your binoculars as there are frequent observations of loons and osprey on this quiet lake, which is restricted to electric motors only. A bench is located along the shoreline at the halfway point. A short walk to the north leads to a small bog lake that you may want to explore. Look for the white diamond-shaped reassurance markers that designate this trail.



**Getting There:** From Laona, drive north 14 miles on Highway 8 to FR 2163. Turn left (north) on FR 2163 and drive 4 miles to the Campground. The trailhead is located between the swim area and the boat ramp. Parking is available for 2 vehicles at the trailhead with additional parking for 5 vehicles at the boat ramp parking lot.

**Trail Length:** 2-1/4 mile loop.

**Difficulty:** Moderate, uneven, narrow trail with some exposed rocks and roots.



## Laura Lake Bike Trail

Located adjacent to the Laura Lake Campground, this trail explores the woods north of Laura Lake passing through a forest of northern hardwoods, hemlocks, and balsams.

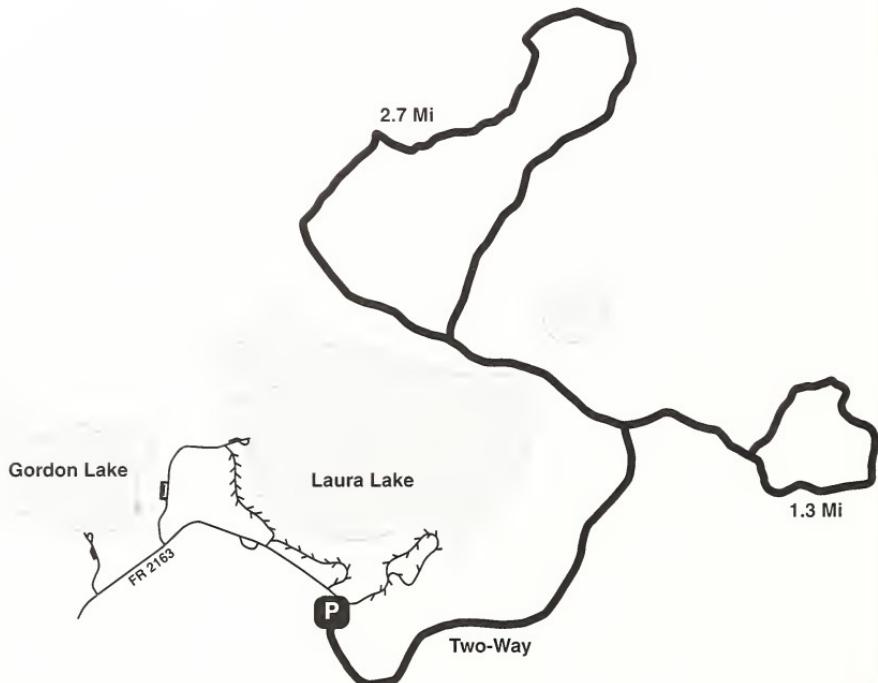
**Getting There:** From Armstrong Creek, drive west 1.9 miles on Highway 8 to FR 2163. Turn right (north) on FR 2163 and drive 4 miles to the campground.

From Laona, drive north 14 miles on Highway 8 to FR 2163. Turn left (north) on FR 2163 and drive 4 miles to the campground.



**Trail Length:** A 1 mile two-way trail connects to 1.3 and 2.7 mile loops.

**Difficulty:** Moderate, uneven, narrow trail with some exposed rocks and roots.



# Michigan Rapids Hiking Trail

This picturesque hiking trail follows the edge of the Peshtigo River. The main feature is a view of Michigan Rapids. You'll also see where Armstrong Creek flows into the river. Beautiful rock formations, with one that looks like a great stone hard hat, river islands, and shoreline wildlife can be observed.



**Getting There:** From Laona, take U.S. Highway 8 north about 3 miles to FR 2131. Turn right and go east approximately 12 miles to FR 2134. Turn right and go south 1/2 mile. Look for trailhead sign on left just south of Peshtigo River crossing at Burnt Bridge. Parking is available for 3 vehicles.

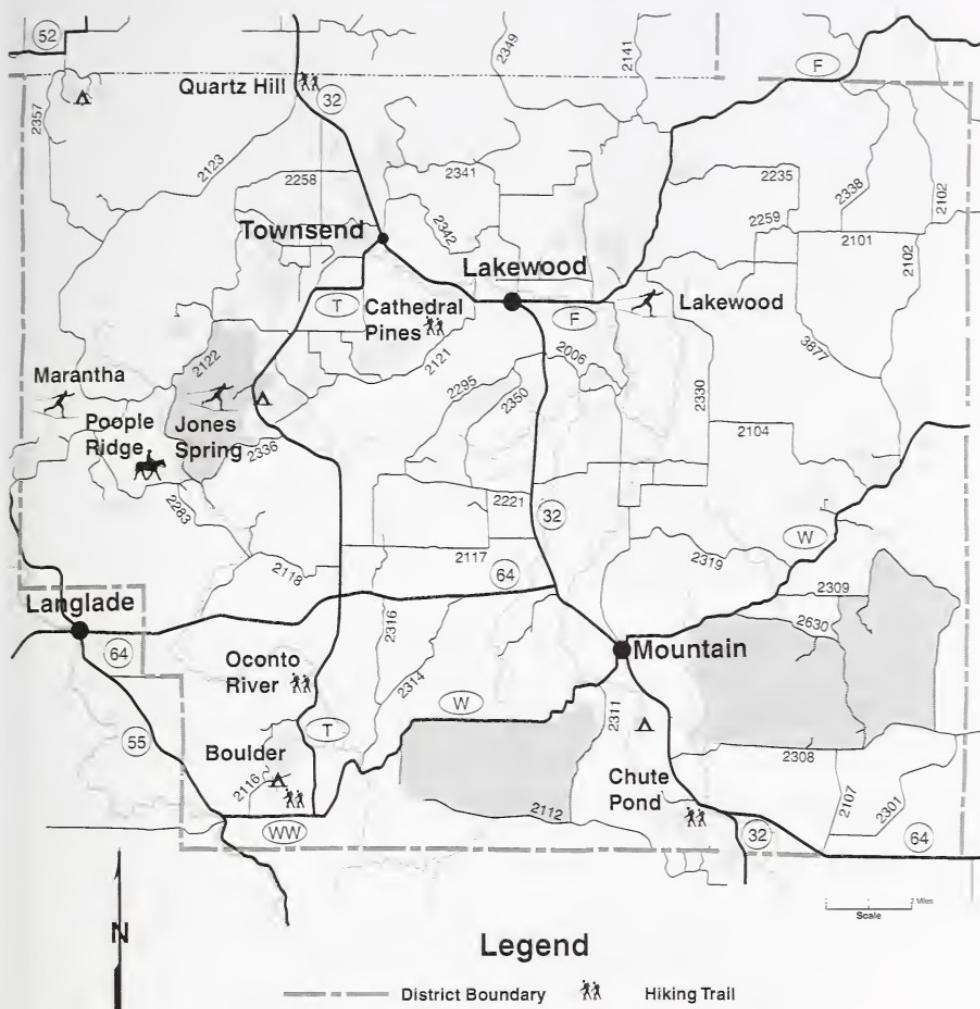
**Trail Length:** Approximately 2 mile loop.

**Difficulty:** Moderate, uneven, and rocky terrain. Some wet areas in early spring. Watch for poison ivy at the far end of the trail.



## Lakewood Area Trail Features and Type of Use

Page	Trail	Length miles/ km	Hiking	Mtn Bike	XC Ski	Snow Shoe	Horse	Interpre- tive
42	Boulder Lake Campground Trail	2 mi	x	x				
43	Cathedral Pines Trail	0.3 mi	x					
44	Chute Pond Trail	0.6 mi	x					
45	Lakewood Auto Tour	65 mi						x
46	Jones Springs Trail	11.0 mi 17.7 km	x		x			
48	Lakewood Cross Country Ski Trail	14 mi 22 km			x			
50	Nicolet Nordic Trail	20.3 mi 32.7 km	x		x			
51	Oconto River Trail	0.2 mi	x					x
52	Popple Ridge Horse Trail	26 mi					x	
53	Quartz Hill Trail	1.25 mi	x					x



## Legend

- |  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
|  | District Boundary   |
|  | Campground          |
|  | Non-Motorized Area  |
|  | Forest Road         |
|  | Hiking Trail        |
|  | Equestrian Trail    |
|  | Ski Trail           |
|  | Mountain Bike Trail |

## Boulder Lake Campground Trail

A wooden boardwalk begins your journey into another world of primitive bog vegetation, deer trails, squirrels' nests, and the workings of woodpeckers. Hike up and down the ridges around a large open bog area. The huge boulders you'll see are the calling cards left behind when the last glacier receded and formed the rugged terrain over 10,000 years ago. Campers can access the trail from several points in the campground.

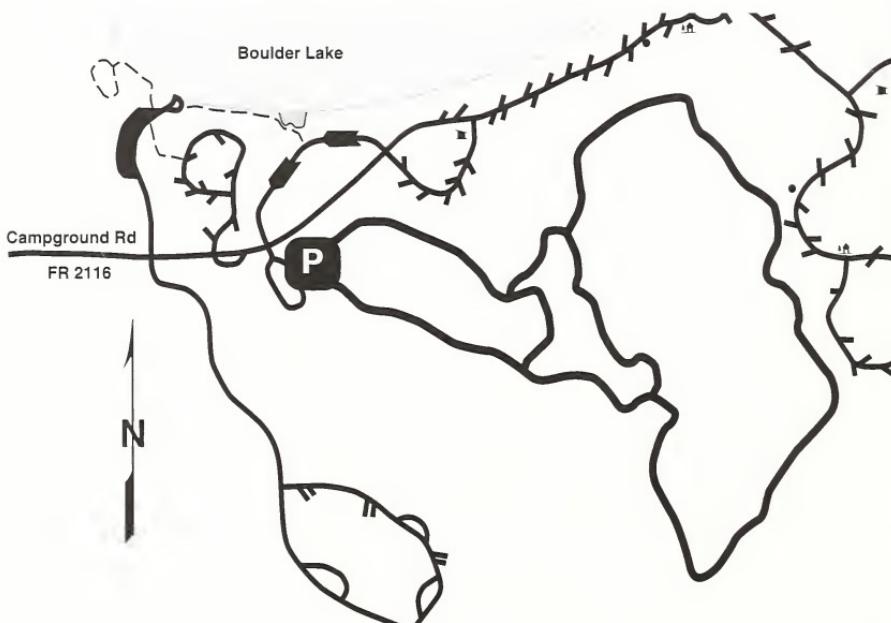


**Getting There:** From the intersection of Highways 64 and 55 in Langlade, drive south 5 miles on Highway 55 to County Road WW in Markton. Turn left (east) on WW and drive 0.6 mile to Campground Drive (FR 2116). Turn left (north) on Campground Drive and continue 1.2 miles to the campground.

From Keshena, drive north 20 miles on Highway 55 to Markton. Turn right (east) on WW and drive 0.6 mile to Campground Drive (FR 2116). Turn left (north) on Campground Drive and continue 1.2 miles to the campground.

**Trail Length:** 2 miles.

**Difficulty:** Easy to moderately rolling terrain.



## Cathedral Pines Trail

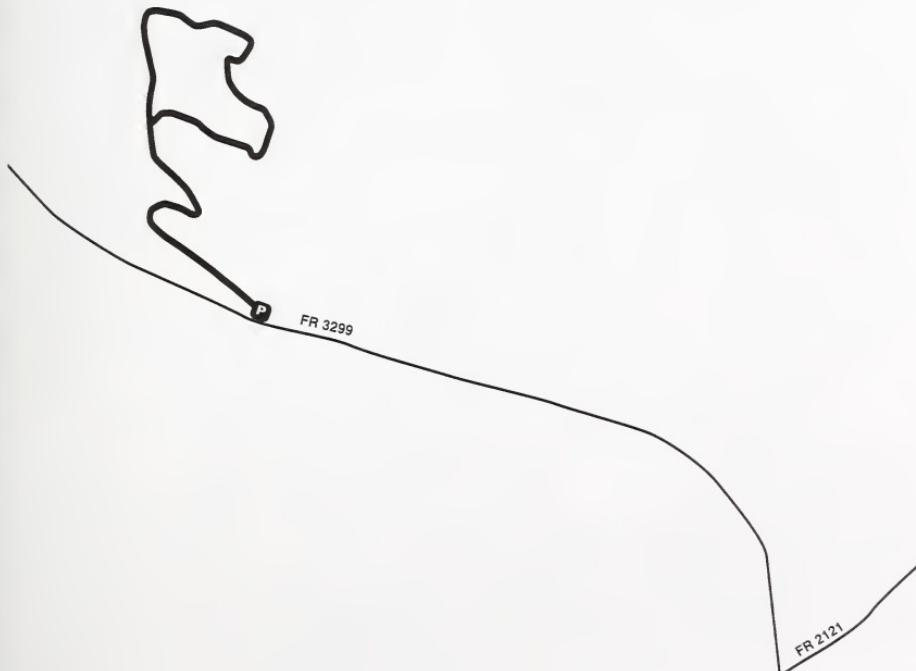
A 40 acre grove of white pine and hemlock escaped cutting in the 1900's. Stands of hardwood trees as well as the pine and hemlock make this area a beautiful place to hike, explore, or just imagine what the early forest was like.

Many of the large white pine in this area contain nests of the great blue heron. There are nearly 100 nests in this area called a rookery. You would be amazed at the noise these birds make during the nesting season which lasts from May through July. To reduce human disturbance we ask that you stay at least 300 feet away from the nesting area.



**Getting There:** From the intersection of Archibald Lake Road (FR 2121) and Highway 32 on the north end of Lakewood drive southwest 1.4 miles on FR 2121. Turn right (northwest) at the sign for Cathedral Pines and drive 0.4 miles on a dirt road to the trail.

**Difficulty:** Easy, grades are below 8 percent for accessibility.



## Chute Pond Overlook Trail

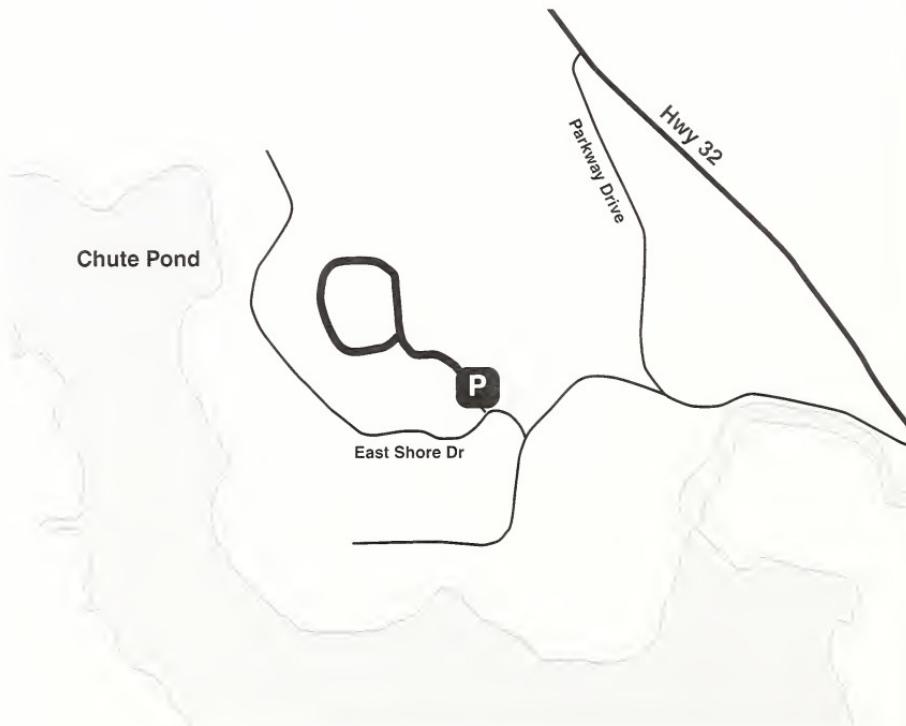
This short, moderately steep trail leads to the top of a rock outcrop that features five vistas. Three of the vistas overlook Chute Pond, one looks over a Forest Service tree plantation, and one looks north along State Highway 32 with Bagley Rapids on the west and Green Lake on the east. At the northernmost vista, look north to see the last remaining Forest Service fire lookout tower almost six miles away at Mountain. Looking south from the southernmost vista you can see the radio tower on Suring Hill, about eight miles away. Be sure to bring your binoculars on this hike!



**Getting There:** From the town of Mountain, take State Highway 32 south for 3-1/2 miles to Parkway Drive and turn right (west). Follow the signs to Scenic Overlook.

**Trail Length:** 2/3 mile.

**Difficulty:** Moderate.



## Lakewood Auto Tour

This self-guided auto tour takes you in a loop drive around the Lakewood and Mountain areas. It features 17 stops which highlight wildlife, natural history, forest management, and historic sites, including a stop at the Mountain Fire Lookout Tower. Plan on spending a day, because stops include places where you may want to hike or take photographs of beautiful scenery or historic spots. Numbered "Auto Tour" signs are posted along the route so it's easy to follow.

Directions: Brochures with map of route and stop descriptions are available at the Lakewood Ranger Station, on the south side of Lakewood. The tour begins at Lakewood, but you may access the route anywhere along the way.

Drive Length: 65 miles.

**Difficulty:** Please drive carefully as some of the Forest Roads are narrow and winding and used by many vehicles.



## Lakewood-Laona Ranger District

## Jones Spring Area Trail

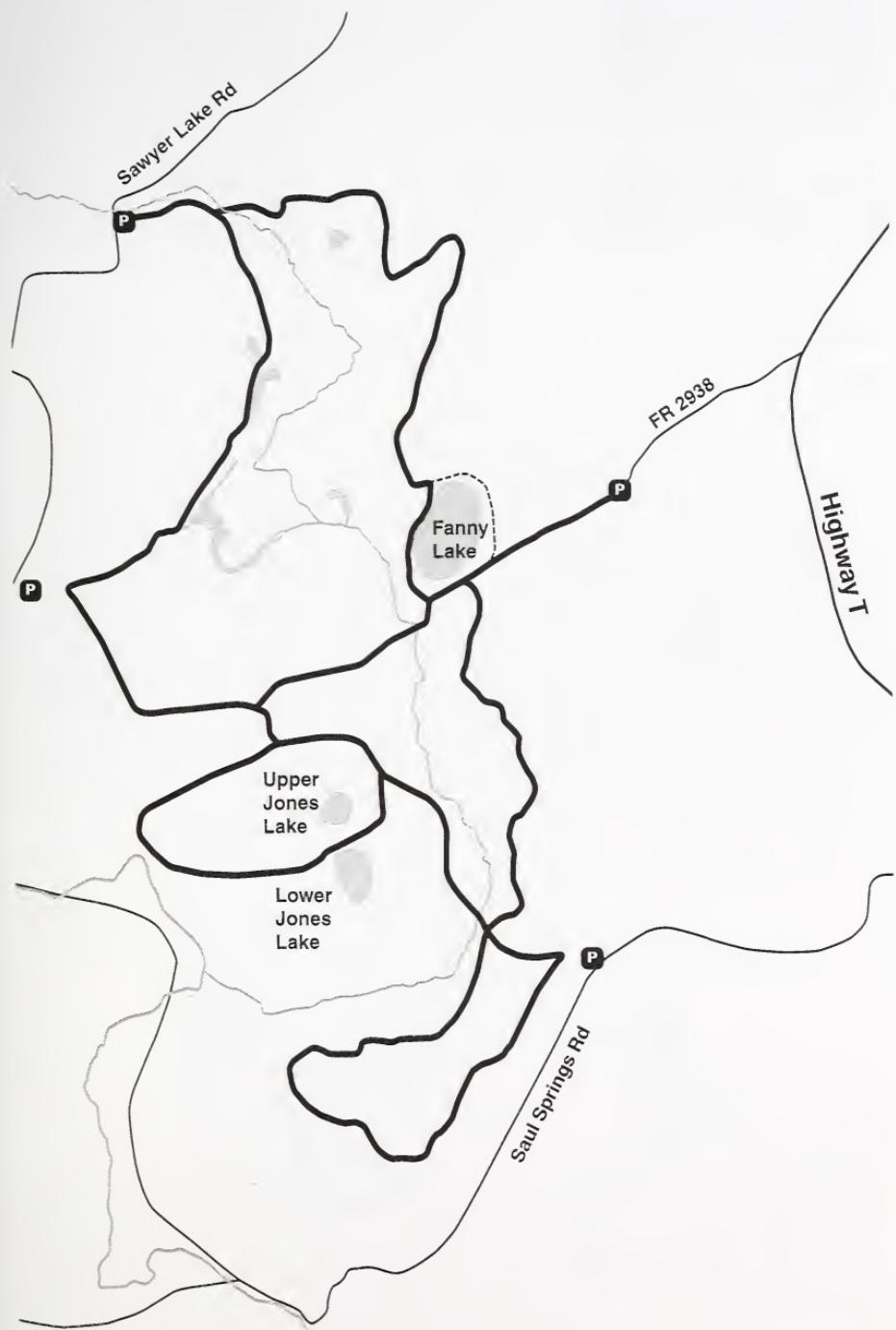
You are bound to see wildlife on this trail. Jones Spring is a 2,000 acre area managed for non-motorized use and offers several loops of hiking and groomed cross-country ski trails (for traditional style skiing). The area features three lakes. Fanny Lake has five walk-in campsites on the shore. On an overlook between Upper and Lower Jones Lakes, you'll find an Adirondack-style shelter for a quick rest while skiing or a place to picnic when hiking. The trail traverses a variety of landscapes and forest types which also means a variety of wildlife. Look for the wood duck boxes which have been placed here to increase the wood duck population. Jones Spring Area is also managed as a wildlife area for hunting.



**Getting There:** From Townsend, take County Highway T southwest for 5 miles to Fanny Lake Road (FR 2938). Turn right and follow Fanny Lake Road west to parking area. Space is available for approximately 6 vehicles.

**Trail Length:** 4 loops of varying lengths with a total of 11 miles.

**Difficulty:** The four loops vary from easy to difficult.



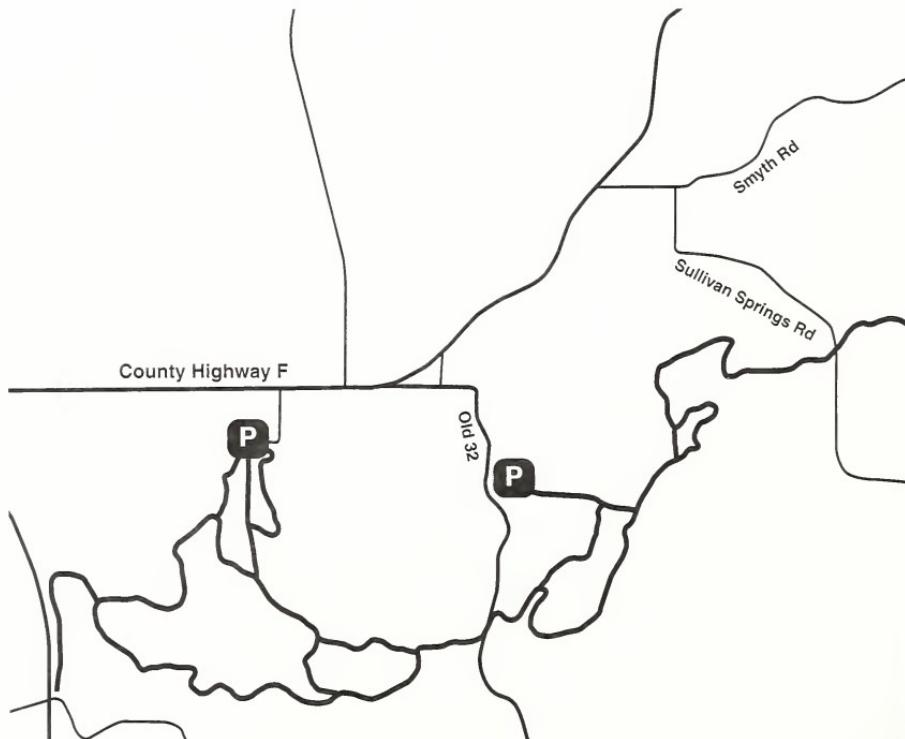
## Lakewood Cross-Country Ski Trail

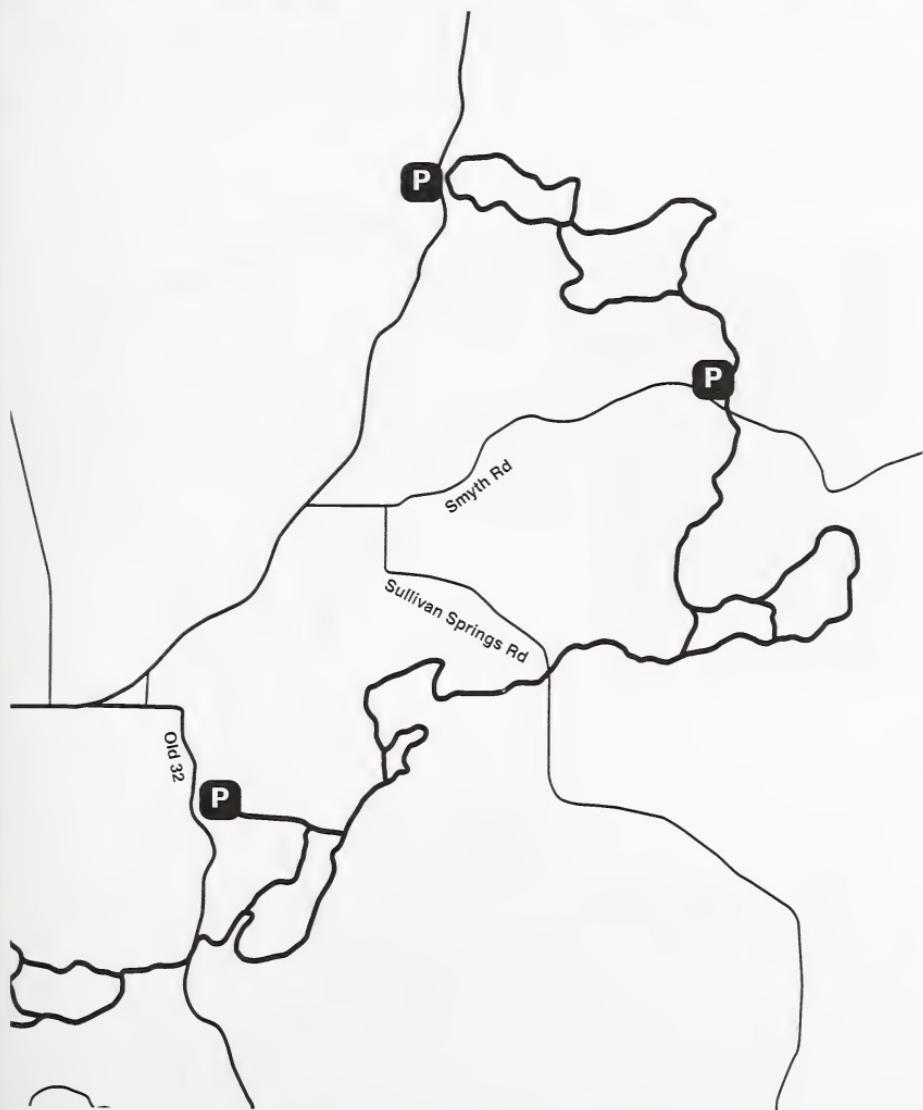
The Lakewood Ski Trail winds through beautiful, wooded settings with rolling hills. The 22 kilometer main trail, known as the blue trail is continuous between McCaslin Brook Country Club and County F. Several secondary loops connect to the blue trail. The blue trail is maintained for both traditional cross-country skiing and ski skating. Trails are groomed in accordance with snow conditions. In the summer season, mountain bikes are welcome, but are not allowed on the golf course part of the trail.

**Getting There:** Take County Highway F east from Lakewood. Trail access points are at McCaslin Brook Country Club, Old Highway 32 (FR 2106), Smyth Road (FR 2101), Sullivan Springs Road (FR 2330), and County Highway F at Riverside Road.

**Trail Length:** 14 mile main trail with additional loops.

**Difficulty:** Varies from easy to most difficult.





Lakewood-Laona Ranger District

## Nicolet Nordic Trail

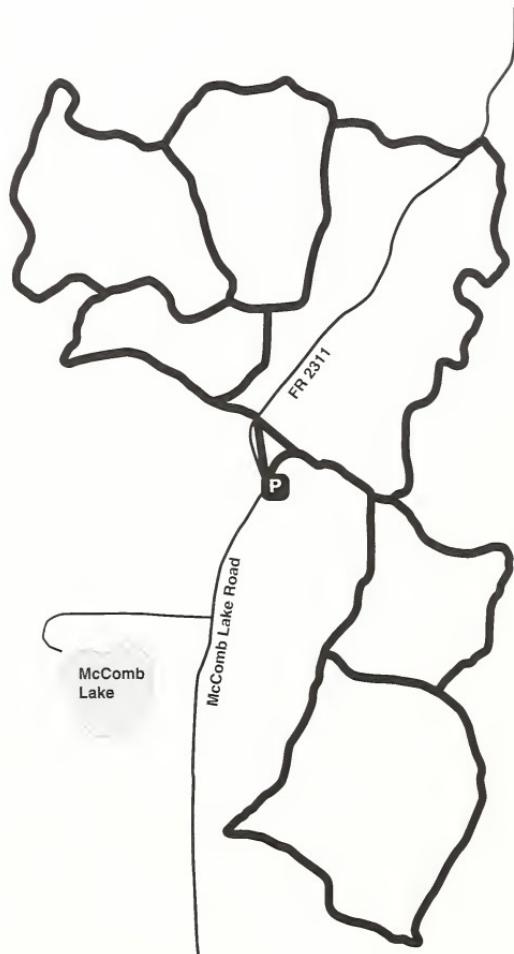
The Nicolet Nordic Ski Trails are cross-country trails groomed by volunteer efforts of local ski club members and friends in cooperation with the Forest Service. Most of the trails are double tracked. A trail map is located at the trailhead.



**Trail Length:** Consists of six loops, varying in length from 3.1 to 7.2 kilometers with a total of 32.7 kilometers.

**Getting There:** From the town of Mountain, follow County Highway W west for 1 mile to McComb Lake Road (FR 2311). Turn left and go south 2 miles to parking area on the left (east) side of the road. Space is available for approximately 30 vehicles.

**Difficulty:** Varies from easy to difficult.

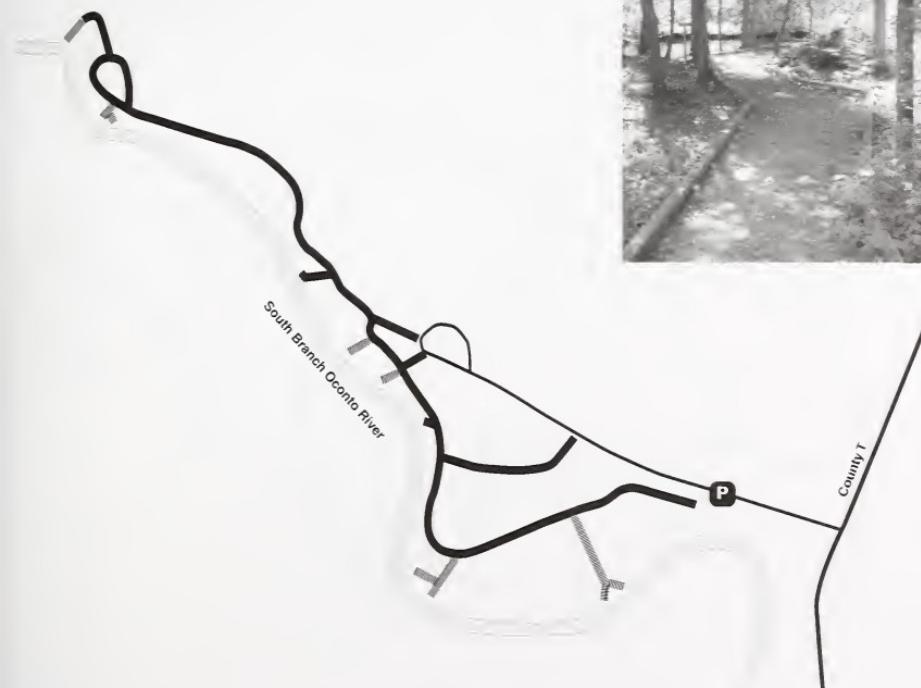


## Oconto River Fishing Trail

This trail is located along a portion of the South Branch of the Oconto River, a top quality brook and brown trout fishery. Adjacent to it are two rustic campsites. Boardwalks lead you to several fishing platforms over the river, where you can fish or just take a rest and enjoy the scenic river as it ripples by.

**Getting There:** From Mountain drive north 1.5 miles on Highway 32 to Highway 64. Turn left (west) on Hwy 64 and drive 5 miles to Highway T. Turn left (south) on T and drive 2 miles to the entrance on your right.

**Difficulty:** Easy the trail is accessible.



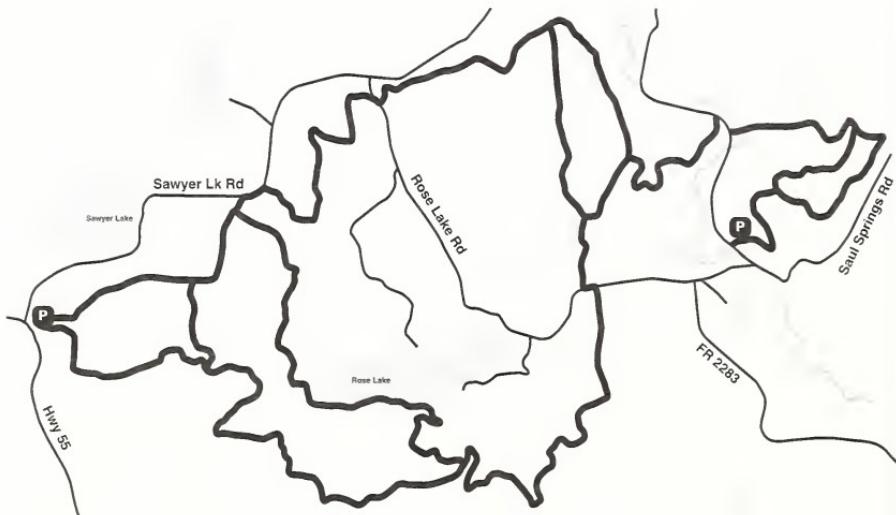
## **Popple Ridge Horse Trail**

The Popple Ridge Horse Trails are located on gently rolling terrain. The trail tread is a mix of sand and some stones. All but one section is wide enough for 2 horses to ride side-by-side. These wooded trails are cool and shady even in the middle of the summer.

**Trail Length:** 26 miles of marked trails

**Getting There:** From the intersection of Highways 64 and 55 near Langlade drive north 4 miles on Highway 55 to the intersection with Sawyer Lake Road. There is parking for the trail at this intersection. To reach the trail camp in the Jones Springs area, from the intersection of Sawyer Lake Road and Highway 55, drive northeast on Sawyer Lake Road 5.4 miles to the intersection with FR 2283. Turn right (south) on FR 2283 and drive 2.4 miles to the access road to the trailhead on the left (east).

**Difficulty:** Easy to moderate.



## Quartz Hill Trail

This trail has two sections, one located on the east and one on the west side of State Highway 32. The east section leads across a boardwalk to the top of McCaslin Mountain. It has moderately steep sections, but the view from the top of this quartz rock outcrop is worth the climb. Along the trail to the top, you will pass a quartz crystal deposit with an informational sign which describes how early Indians came here to quarry quartz to create their tools.

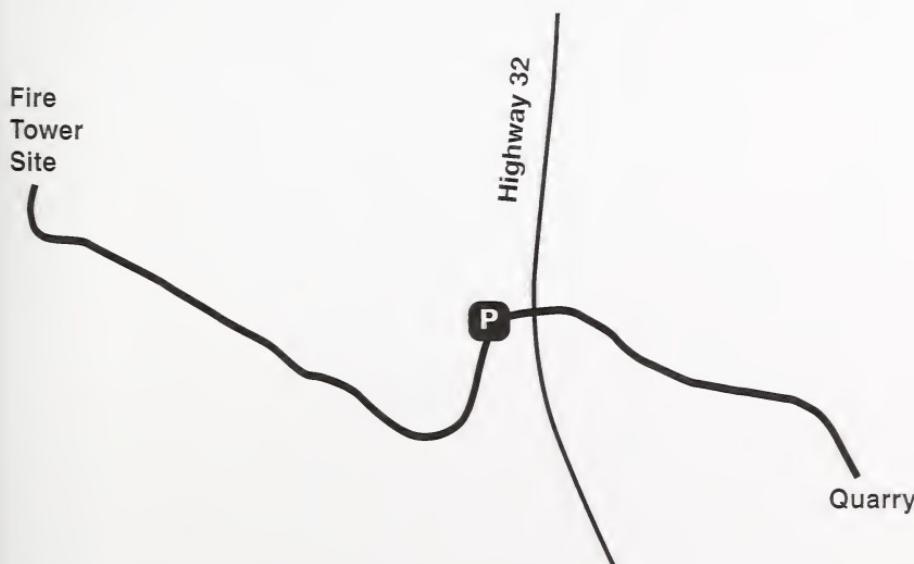


The west portion of this trail leads to the site of the Carter Fire Lookout Tower. Once used to spot forest fires, all that now remains are the tower footings and roadway. Most fire towers on the Nicolet were erected in the 1930's and have since been discontinued as aerial surveillance took over.

**Trail Length:** 1 1/4 miles

**Getting There:** From Carter, take State Highway 32 south 1 mile. The parking area is on the west side of the highway. A sign with trail map is at the trailhead. To get to the east portion of the trail from the parking lot you must cross over State Highway 32. Be cautious for high speed traffic. Trail Length: The trail section to the east to McCaslin Mountain is 6/10 mile. The section to the west to Carter Tower site is 3/4 mile.

**Difficulty:** Moderate to difficult.











# Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest

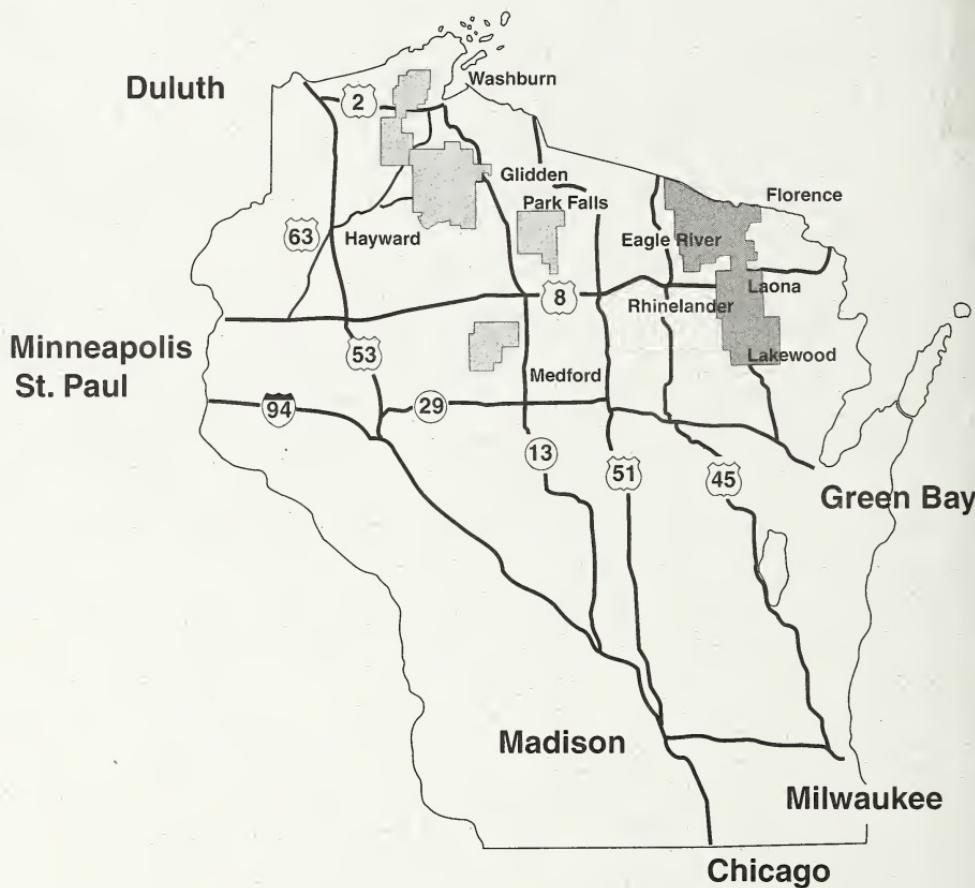


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# Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest



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